

Garrison - Miscellaneous Reports and Mem Assassination

grow out of the republican state, but rather an oligarchic government out of an empire. Therefore the whole problem goes much further back than the past twenty years. Clearly, the CIA is the most recent and slickest civilian means for carrying out the dirty work of the imperialists, similar to the SS in Germany, but it is not the first such formation in America. The Marine Corps was conceived and created as such an irregular military force, working particularly to control Central America, the Carribean, and Mexico. The Internal Revenue Service became an "invisible government" in the 20's fighting the gangsters that the vicious dog-eat-dog, anarchic economic system itself had created. The Ku Klux Klan and other secret societies that have formed outside of the government's direction have been very carefully utilized by the U.S. government to terrorize and keep in submission all non-white, non-Protestant, non-"native" (Anglo-Saxon) individuals and communities.

Of course, the CIA now has competitors in other branches of the government, i.e., Defense Intelligence, Army Intelligence, Navy and Air Force intelligence branches (which are all becoming more and more like the CIA); HEW intelligence; and the corporate research institutes such as RAND, Atlantic Research, Stanford Research, and Hudson Research Institute (Herman Kahn). These latter were formed to serve the former, but have a life of their own and are "invisible government" competitors.

What has changed in the last two decades is not the nature and goals of the American imperialists, but rather their ability to fool the people; the people will no longer be terrorized with invisible governments, boogie-men, red-scares, threats of concentration camps, or annihilation with atomic weapons. For the situation to have got to the state of affairs that

you describe in your book, historical precedent must exist. The CIA is a product of this decadent empire, not the cause of it. At this point, power struggles are going on within the Army and the government to disassemble the CIA, but its death will not change the nature of the empire.

To see the nature of this empire and what it has come to, we need only observe that it was first of all founded on chattel slavery, a system of labor that had been declared illegal and immoral for nearly a thousand years in Europe; yet it was re-introduced to colonize the Western Hemisphere. We need only observe the almost total annihilation of the natives of this land, truly without cause or justification, in the greed for land and fame and the insane violence bred by that greed. We need only observe the brutal treatment and removal of the small farmers from the South and Midwest when they were no longer needed to settle the frontier for the imperialists; thus the dust bowl migrations; thus the war industry to employ these millions of displaced people.

We can thus observe a system of greed, individualism, cut-throat competition at the bottom, power and control at the top, survival of the fittest among those without any power even though some are old and some are babies and some are crippled and some are blind and some remain stubbornly humane and therefore unfit to live in this society. We can observe through a study of American history what such a system can do and the measures those on top can take to retain control. (Read *Bury My Heart at Wounded Knee*, by Dee Brown, on the annihilation of the American native people.)

Perhaps it is not essential to understand the historical basis of the system you so accurately delineate in your book. Perhaps it is enough to state its present existence, and the necessity of finding a way to eradicate

it as quickly as possible. However, delineation does not indicate direction.

When you suggest action, you put it in terms of "dignified" action. From your analysis, I gather this does not mean legal action altogether, since the enforcement of laws is arbitrary under an illegitimate government. If Robert Kennedy cannot even survive his candidacy for president, and the pacifist Martin Luther King must be silenced, it is doubtful what can be done as an alternative within the existing electoral and legal system. Your own work, though courageous and important, has limited effect.

To a great extent, the power of the military is the only thing...

I cannot forget what my studies of history have taught me: No powerful group of people is willing to relinquish its power, and those people will fight to maintain control no matter who or how many oppose them. Historically, changes in political-economic power have been made through war. I know you respect war and military science, since you have yourself practiced it under necessary conditions. But what about irregular warfare, warfare carried out by irregular forces against an illegal government? Would this be different from, or any less "dignified" than the irregular forces that consolidated and became the Revolutionary Army led by Washington, or the Resistance forces in Europe?

It seems that the present government is more a danger to humanity than any government has been in the past, even the Third Reich. But since U.S. military power controls so many countries, we cannot expect an alliance of liberators in the form of regular armies as Europe received in World War II. It would seem that irregular military activities from within the countries controlled by the U.S. and from within the U.S. itself is the only strategy for wresting power from those who now control.

Besides the federal government forces opposing such irregular war-

fare here (though they are very busy all over the world), so, too, would local and state law enforcement agencies, so that the total armed power against irregular forces would seem to be overwhelming. Yet such warfare could be successful. The struggle would be protracted, and very different from regular warfare. In the beginning the forces would be small, inexperienced, and vulnerable, but would gain in numbers, strength, and expertise, and would gain the support of great numbers of people as the forces showed their ability to exist, survive, and take the offensive. A government, no matter how powerful, cannot long survive if the population is opposed to it and willing to fight against it.

Of course, this thesis is purely academic. But I would be interested in your opinions of these thoughts and your response to my criticism of your book. I am doing research at this time on irregular and regular warfare, military history and military science. I have become very interested also in the history of firearms and their role in the development of warfare. (I am an amateur collector and reloader.) I was impressed with your knowledge of ballistics in your book, and thought perhaps you, too, had studied military history and military science.

The American people are greatly indebted to you for your investigation. Your findings are extremely important for the work that is ahead of us.

Roxanne Dunbar

Roxanne Dunbar

c/o Marguerite F. Hebert
Library, Delgado College

Junios Street I remember it didn't be
Again, all of these places I can close
I can't remember.
here with Mr. Perrin?
don't remember?

I think we left Dallas in October or
or early November.

here I am getting confused. It had
confused. When I stated before that
of 1961.
rection now?
ly been in 1962.

of 1962, in New Orleans. And we ha
over a year by the time he died?
New Orleans and Boston, and Miami
then?

ates, May and July, you now wish
n after leaving Dallas in October of
t of the time?

as New Orleans and Boston.
hen you had first met Jack Ruby.
we got into the question of your
met Jack Ruby, and when?
actly. Some time during May or
ou, due to the fact that I believe
how was that Mr. Rayburn took
ayburn.
arrived in Dallas did you meet
e. It could be anywhere from
be that long after you arrived
s about?
3 weeks. The last few years
ation with Ruby, and where
nge, on Commercial—well, the

he other people who worked
tional name is Buddy King—
e of that MC. I have been
or other, I believe. They

Mr. HUBERT. How long were you employed by Ruby altogether?

Mrs. RICH. Probably a couple of months.

Mr. HUBERT. Did you work with Ruby after your husband joined you?

Mrs. RICH. Yes; I did.

Mr. HUBERT. Did you work until you left Dallas?

Mrs. RICH. No; I did not.

Mr. HUBERT. How long before leaving Dallas did you quit the job at Ruby's?

Mrs. RICH. Possibly a couple of months, 3 months. I wasn't in Dallas more
than maybe 5 months, 4 months at the most, 4 or 5 months at the most.

Mr. HUBERT. Now, when you say bartender, what do you mean? What were
your actual duties?

Mrs. RICH. I was actually a bartender. I worked behind the bar mixing
and serving drinks.

Mr. HUBERT. What sort of drinks?

Mrs. RICH. Whatever was allowed. Actually, you are not allowed to serve
mixed drinks there. We do to special customers. You are not allowed to serve
hard liquor. But I served beer, and wine, of course, and your setups.

Mr. HUBERT. What customers did you serve hard liquor to?

Mrs. RICH. Whomever I was told to.

Mr. HUBERT. You don't know their names?

Mrs. RICH. I couldn't quote you names, perhaps.

Mr. HUBERT. Who told you to serve them?

Mrs. RICH. Mr. Ruby. It was a standing order. For a particular group of
people. Then whenever he would come in and say, "This is private stock stuff,"
that would mean for me to go where I knew the hard liquor was and get it
out, and get it ready for the people in his private office.

Mr. HUBERT. What was the particular group—who did it consist of?

Mrs. RICH. The police department.

Mr. HUBERT. Are you saying that Jack Ruby told you that when any member
of the police department came in, that there was a standing order that you
could serve them hard liquor?

Mrs. RICH. That is correct.

Mr. HUBERT. And are you also saying that you did so?

Mrs. RICH. I am saying that I needed a job and did so.

Mr. HUBERT. Do you remember the names of any particular officers to whom
you served hard liquor?

Mrs. RICH. House, Rayburn—

Mr. HUBERT. Let's see if we can get some first names.

Mrs. RICH. I don't remember what House's first name was, but it was Paul
Rayburn, and Detective—something House—they were partners. They worked
as a team, juvenile. And the rest were just faces and uniforms.

Mr. HUBERT. How would you know them?

Mrs. RICH. At that time, I knew them.

Mr. HUBERT. You knew them to be police?

Mrs. RICH. Oh, yes.

Mr. HUBERT. Did they pay?

Mrs. RICH. Oh, no; of course not.

Mr. HUBERT. Was that an order, too, from Mr. Ruby?

Mrs. RICH. That was. Unless they came in in the evening with their wives.
Then, of course, they paid. But then again, they didn't have hard liquor, either,
at that time. This is when they came in, by themselves, I was to go get the
private stock, as he called it, special stock. They were served whatever they
wanted on the house.

Mr. HUBERT. Was that widespread?

Mrs. RICH. I am not sure I understand what you mean by widespread.

Mr. HUBERT. Well, you have mentioned two names, and then said there were
others whose names you don't remember.

Mrs. RICH. Well, the only reason I remember House and Rayburn is because
they were personal friends of mine.

Mr. HUBERT. Well, how many others do you suppose you served?

Mrs. RICH. I couldn't estimate. I couldn't give you a true and accurate figure.
Anyone that came in from the police department. Including certain attorneys in

SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT
COUNTY OF DALLAS, TEXAS

Before me, the undersigned authority, on this the 22nd day of November A.D. 1963

personally appeared Julia Ann Mercer, Address 5200 Belmont, No. 206
Room 2-10-40 Chattanooga, Tenn.
Age 23, Phone No. _____
Deposited and says:

On November 22, 1967, I was driving a rented White Valiant automobile west on Elm Street and was proceeding to the overpass in a westerly direction and at a point about 45 or 50 feet east of the overhead signs of the right entrance road to the overpass, there was a truck parked on the right hand side of the road. The truck looked like it had 1 or 2 wheels up on the curb. The hood of the truck was open. On the drivers side of the truck, there were printed letters in black, oval shaped, which said, "Air Conditioning". This was a pickup truck and along the back side of the truck were what appeared to be tool boxes. The truck was a green Ford with a Texas license. I remember seeing the word "Ford" at the back of the truck.

A man was sitting under the wheel of the car and slouched over the wheel. This man had on a green jacket, was a white male and about his 40's and was heavy set. I did not see him too clearly. Another man was at the back of the truck and reached over the tailgate and took out from the truck what appeared to be a gun case. This case was about 8" wide at its widest spot and tapered down to a width of about 4" or 5". It was brown in color. It had a handle and was about 3 1/2 to 4 feet long. The man who took this out of the truck then proceeded to walk away from the truck and as he did, the small end of the case caught in the grass or sidewalk and he reached down to free it. He then proceeded to walk across the grass and up the grassy hill which forms part of the overpass. This is the last I saw of this man.

I had been delayed because the truck which I described above was blocking my passage and I had to wait until the lane to my left cleared so I could go by the truck.

During the time that I was at this point and observed the above incident there were 3 policemen standing talking near a motorcycle on the bridge just west of me.

The man who took what appeared to be the gun case out of the truck was a white male, who appeared to be in his late 20's or early 30's and he was

Subscribed and sworn to before me on this the 22nd day of November A.D. 1963

Barney Allen
Notary Public, Dallas County, Texas

SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT
COUNTY OF DALLAS, TEXAS

Before me, the undersigned authority, on this the 22nd day of November A.D. 1963

personally appeared Julia Ann Mercer, Address 5200 Belmont, No. 206
Dallas
Age 23, Phone No. _____
Deposited and says:

wearing a grey jacket, brown pants and plaid shirt as best as I can remember. I remember he had on some kind of a hat that looked like a wool stocking hat with a tassell in the middle of it. I believe that I can identify this man if I see him again. XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

The man who remained in the truck had light brown hair and I believe I could identify him also if I were to see him again.

Julia Ann Mercer

1/18/68

The signatures on this affidavit which is entitled "Sheriff's Department, County of Dallas, Texas" are not mine but are very good imitations - except that the Capital "A" is not close. I did not sign anything of this kind and, furthermore, there was no woman present at any time when I was questioned.

It is not true that the truck had "Air Conditioning" printed on the side. I did not see the truck clearly. The fact is that I looked right in his face and he looked at no time. This is why I was able to recognize him when I later saw him shot Oswald on T.V. Julia Ann Mercer

Subscribed and sworn to before me on this the 22nd day of November A.D. 1963
Barney Allen
Notary Public, Dallas County, Texas
"Air Conditioning" printed on the side. I did not see the truck clearly. The fact is that I looked right in his face and he looked at no time. This is why I was able to recognize him when I later saw him shot Oswald on T.V. Julia Ann Mercer

FBI Reports

25-725

FD-302 (Rev. 3-3-59)

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1

Date 11/23/68

JULIA ANN MERCER, residence 5200 Belmont, Apartment 208, Dallas, Texas, no telephone, who is employed at Automat Distributors, 1720 Canton Street in Dallas, advised she was born February 10, 1940, at Chattanooga, Tennessee.

She advised that at about 10:50 AM, November 22, 1963, she was driving a rented white Valiant automobile west on Elm Street toward the Triple Underpass below Houston Street and at a point about 45 or 50 feet east of the overhead signs over the right entrance road to the underpass, there was a truck parked on the right-hand side of the road, which truck blocked her progress for a few seconds until the lane left of her cleared and she was able to pass around the truck. This truck appeared to have the two right wheels up on the curb. The hood of the truck was open. On the driver's door the words "Air Conditioning" were printed in black letters and the words formed a half-moon shape. The truck was a green Ford pickup, with Texas license.

She advised there was a man sitting under the wheel of the car, slouched over the wheel. This man was wearing a green jacket and was described as a white male, who appeared to be about 40 to 45 years of age, and to be of heavy build.

Another man was at the back of the truck on the street and was reaching over the tailgate when she drove up. This man took out from the truck what appeared to be a gun case. This case was about 3 1/2 feet to 4 feet long and about 3 inches wide at the widest point and about 3, 4, or 5 inches wide at the narrowest point. This case was brown in color and had a handle. The man took this out of the truck and proceeded to walk away and as he did the small end of the case caught in the grass or sidewalk and he reached down to free it. The man then proceeded to walk across the street and up the grassy hill toward the overpass. She said that is the last she saw of this person.

She noticed at the time there were three policemen standing there talking near a motorcycle on the bridge just west of her.

She advised that the man who took the gun case from the truck was a white male in his late 20's or early 30's, with

Nov 23, 1963 was when I picked out the picture of Jack Ruby

11/15/68

It is not true that the above truck had "Air Conditioning" printed on the driver's door.

By Special Agent in Charge. Dallas. Questioned - which/68/MS
Included at least two times by the FBI. —

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

It is clearly stated that there was no printing on the truck. Furthermore, even before Ruby shot Oswald, when the FBI agents showed me pictures I selected Jack Ruby's picture as one of those which appeared to be the driver. When one of the agents turned the picture over, I saw "Jack Ruby" on the back. Julia Ann Mercer

Date 11/28/63

JULIA ANN MERCER, Residence 5200 Belmont, Apartment 208, Dallas, Texas, who is employed at the Automat Distributors, 1726 Canton Street, Dallas, was shown a group of photographs which included a photograph of JACK RUBY. MERCER could not identify any of the photographs as being identical with the person she had observed slouched over the wheel of a green Ford pickup truck parked about 10:50 AM at a point near the place where President KENNEDY was assassinated on November 22, 1963.

She then was shown a photograph of RUBY, and she advised the person in the truck had a rather large round face similar to RUBY's, but she could not identify him as the person.

She then was shown a photograph of LEE HARVEY OSWALD, and she stated that OSWALD was of the same general build, size and age as the person who took a long package from this truck, but she also could not identify him as being the one who took the package from the truck.

1/15/68

Four pictures were selected by me as the driver of the truck. One of them was Jack Ruby. I remember seeing his name on the back of the picture when they turned it over. I again recognized him as Jack Ruby when I saw him shoot Oswald and I said to my family, who were watching TV with me, "That was the man I saw in the truck." When they showed me the pictures and I picked out Jack Ruby's picture, this was on Saturday morning, the day after the President's assassination, and the day before Ruby shot Oswald.

on 11/27/63

at

Dallas, Texas

by Special Agent

HENRY J. ...

LOUIS ...

Date dictated 11/28/63

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

Julia Ann Mercer

(Anderson continued)

County Sheriff's Office. To me these two men have acted peculiar all week and after hearing them early Saturday morning, they have disappeared. The man shown in the picture from Guthrie's is the McFadin man."

Comment: We should try to locate Anderson and owner of house. We should also plot this location with regard to other activities. Based on our experience with other areas of the 26 volumes, it is entirely possible that this statement is misleading or has been falsified. Nonetheless, there exists the possibility that there may be some elements of relevance in it.

J.G.

Distribution: Alcock
Boxley
Garrison
Sciambra
Bethell
Ivon
Bordelon

OPEN DALLAS LEADS

J.G.
Home
file

1. BRECK WALL

"The indices of the Special Service Bureau of the Dallas Police Department reveal the SUBJECT in file 15-1121-15 as co-owner and later as owner of the Playbill. This file verifies above information as to his previous activity and history. This file revealed that the SUBJECT was listed as the treasurer of the Playbill Club when he was co-owner, with a residence address as 2425 Crestridge, telephone DA 7-9034. When the SUBJECT took over the assets of the Playbill Club and operated as Playbill Cabaret & Company, he listed personal references as THOMAS J. MCKENNA of 934 Turner, FOREST WINDELL of 2425 Crestridge and EARL CABELL of 5338 Drane Drive."

Comment: Earl Cabell was Mayor of Dallas in November, 1963. His brother was General Cabell, one of the top C.I.A. organizers of the Bay of Pigs in 1961 and an executive to Allen Dulles, the head of the C.I.A. and later the quarterback on the Warren Commission. It was General Cabell who unsuccessfully pleaded with Secretary of State Rusk and President Kennedy to use U.S. air power in the Bay of Pigs.

The final call made by Jack Ruby the night before he killed Oswald was made to Wall who was in Galveston, having gone down there that afternoon. Ruby and Wall testified that the five-minute discussion during the long distance call was about Ruby's A.G.V.A. problems. By the time this call was made David Ferrie had been in Galveston for several hours. This lead requires the development of more information about Earl Cabell and his brother.

2. BUELL WESLEY FRAZIER

"Buell Wesley Frazier, 2439 W. 5th Street, Irving, Texas gave Oswald a ride to work on the morning of the killing, and both he and his sister, Linnie Mae Randle, saw Oswald put a long package wrapped in a heavy brown paper in the back seat of the car. After arriving at work, Wesley Frazier saw Oswald take this package and take it with him into the building. This paper was shaped like a crude bag, large enough to carry this rifle. This was also found on the 6th floor."

Comment: The above paragraph is a quotation from the report of Captain Fritz to Chief Curry, a document which adheres to the official scenario in every sentence and eliminates all conflicting evidence. Commission Document 344 (the Secret Service questioning of Marina at Six Flags) quotes Marina Oswald as saying that Lee got the job at the Depository because "the brother of their neighbor, who worked at the Book Depository in Dallas mentioned to him that there was a vacancy". (See Lifton, p. 19). The

(Frazier continued)

neighbor is Linnie Randle and the brother is Buell Wesley Frazier. According to the jail property clerk's records, Frazier was arrested on November 22nd and a British Enfield rifle and ten cartridges were taken from him. Information recently received by the office (uncorroborated) indicates that Buell Wesley Frazier recently returned to Dallas after receiving training of some kind at the Boeing Company in the State of Washington. This lead requires the development of more information about Frazier and about Linnie Randle and her husband. A picture of Frazier should also be obtained. Also the dates of Frazier's work at TSBD would be interesting to have. It is noteworthy that in its questioning of Frazier the Warren Commission never asked him why he was arrested but concentrated on his incriminating testimony concerning Oswald. Frazier appears to be, in a sense, a Dallas counterpart of Kerry Thornley in that he establishes an essential connection of Oswald to the assassination -- a connection which does not stand up under close examination.

3. JACK RUBY

"Source stated that in the summer of 1963, Ruby was living in the Oak Lawn area and further that SUBJECT'S roommate, name unknown, was a member of the COMMUNIST PARTY.

T-1 further stated that LEE HARVEY OSWALD was known to SUBJECT and that SUBJECT rented an apartment for OSWALD in September 1963. This apartment was located in the building next door to apartment that was occupied by RUBY in the OAK LAWN area. It was further stated that the manager of the apartment house asked OSWALD to move because the manager did not like OSWALD. Source could not give the location of either apartment other than the OAK LAWN area.

Further information was given indicating that a red convertible was parked on the street in front of the residence of SUBJECT at the time Officer Tippitt was shot 22 November 1963."

Comment: Do these leads refer in turn to Mary Bledsoe and Vagonov?

Note: We should give more consideration to Oswald's departure from Bledsoe's, to why she turns up as a witness on the bus.

4. "WANTED" MESSAGES

"Grand Prairie called by public service and said a Mrs. Cunningham called and said that a subject W/M no further desc. driving a 1957 Ford green and white Texas license DT 4857 which was reported enroute to Ranger, Texas was involved in the assassination. All auth. Grand Prairie PD message was broadcast, and a short while later Tarrant County advised that the subject had been taken into custody in the downtown area of Fort Worth.

Carrollton PD called on public service and said that someone had reported that the following vehicle had been parked near the Harry Hines circle for the last 3-4 days and very shortly after the shooting was reported the vehicle left traveling North on Harry Hines at a very high rate of speed. Description as follows, Red, 1963 Chevrolet Impala bearing Georgia License 52J1033, this information was broadcast to all stations North."

Comment: To be handled by Investigators. Attempt to learn owners of license numbers, indirectly if necessary.

5. WILLIAM ANDERSON (Statement of)

"I am presently living at 2503 Kilburn where I have a room with a Mrs. Rogers. The telephone number there is FR4-1170. My folks live at 3125 Corrigan, Dallas, Texas and the telephone there is FR4-8331. I am employed for Joe Summers Loop 12 Conoco Service Station at Loop 12 and Lancaster Road. The telephone number there is FR6-6766. On Saturday, November the 16th, 1963 a man whose name I do not know moved into the cottage behind 2503 Kilburn that he rented from Mrs. Rogers. He rented this cottage for 1 week. Another man has been to this cottage named D. H. McFadin. McFadin is about 20 or 27 years of age, dark hair, heavy build, 160 to 170 pounds. The other man I have not seen but one time and I cannot be sure of a good description on him. These two men either come in late at night or early in the mornings. One other odd thing is that they always park their cars by backing them into the driveway. One of the cars is a two-tone Pontiac about a 58 model and the other one is a foreign made car and is black. They both bear Texas license plates. Last Friday night I had been over to my girl friend's house and had left there about 11 pm and went directly home. This took me about 20 minutes, as I went directly home. I then went to bed and sometime, I think it must have been early Saturday morning, I heard voices outside my window on the walk. One person was saying "Well, it's over". The other man said "Keep quiet, that guy is probably still awake". I heard nothing else, and went on back to sleep. This morning Mrs. Rogers told me that she had not seen them anymore and I went out to the cottage and looked around. I found 3, 30-30 calibre shells, a photograph taken at Guthries at Corinth and Industrial and another picture and a letter and an envelope. I picked up these things after thinking about what had happened and the conversation I had overheard and brought them to the Dallas

M E M O R A N D U M

April 18, 1967

TO: JIM GARRISON, DISTRICT ATTORNEY

FROM: JIM ALCOCK, EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT DISTRICT ATTORNEY

RE: NICK J. MATRANA
CLARA MATRANA
422 Fairmont Street
Harvey, Louisiana
Telephone No. 362-0151

On April 17, 1967, Louis Ivon and I interviewed NICK J. MATRANA in my office. MR. MATRANA is the Produce Manager for Schwegmann Brothers Supermarket on the West Bank. He has been employed by Schwegmann since the fall of 1960. MR. MATRANA goes to work early in the morning and usually does not return home until about 8 or 9 P. M. The MATRANAS have lived at their present residence for about two and one half years. This home is owned by MR. MATRANA. Prior to going with Schwegmann Brothers, MR. MATRANA worked for Levitan's Furniture Company on Dryades Street as a collector. MR. MATRANA worked for the Hotel Coffee Company as a route salesman from 1959 to the early part of 1960. This company was owned by the Standard Coffee Company which is also owned by the Reily Coffee Company. However, MR. MATRANA did not know any of the employees working for Reily Coffee Company at the time nor did he know ADRIAN ALBA. Prior to his working for the Hotel Coffee Company, MR. MATRANA owned and operated Little Joe's Restaurant at 701 Camp Street. This restaurant is located across the street from the old Federal Building and Post Office. Most of MR. MATRANA's customers worked for the Federal Government at these locations.

As he and his wife recalls, they resided at 4915 Magazine Street for approximately three years. They left that location for 7041 Magazine Street just prior to OSWALD's moving into 4907 Magazine. Living with them at the Magazine Street address were two boys and a girl who attended Redemptorist High School. During the year 1963, MRS. MATRANA worked at Tony's Restaurant located in the 3200 block of Magazine Street. Neither MR. or MRS. MATRANA ever recall having seen any of the following people: GORDON NOVEL, SERGIO ARCACHA SMITH, AL BEAUBOUF, DAVE FERRIE, CLAY SHAW, JULIAN BUZNEDO, CARLOS QUIROGA. Pictures of all of these individuals were shown to both MR. & MRS. MATRANA.

While living at 4915 Magazine Street, the only people the MATRANAS recall being friendly with were MR. & MRS. JESSIE GARNER and DR. LEGGIO, a dentist who lived across the street from the GARNER's. As MR. MATRANA recalls, the owner of the residence 4915 Magazine Street belonged to a man living in New York. He paid his rent to someone at the City Furniture Store located at 2616 Magazine Street. MR. MATRANA also stated he did not know anyone working at the International Trade Mart.

Both MR. & MRS. MATRANA were very cooperative. They asked if they could leave the city for two weeks to visit MRS. MATRANA's mother who has a terminal case of cancer. We told them it would be perfectly all right and if we should need them again we would give them a call.

M E M O R A N D U M

TO: JIM GARRISON
DISTRICT ATTORNEY

FROM: WILLIAM GURVICH
SPECIAL AIDE

SUBJECT: RAYMOND CUMMINGS--INTERVIEW WITH

Pending the tape transcription of the interview with RAYMOND C. CUMMINGS in Dallas by James Alcock and William Gurvich, the following report is respectfully submitted based on notes made at the time of the interview.

RAYMOND CUMMINGS was contacted at a VFW Club on Saturday, 25 February 1967 at 9:05 P.M. where he was playing music and was interviewed outside this club. CUMMINGS works for the Power & Light Company in Dallas and is a former wrestler.

According to CUMMINGS he was driving a Yellow Cab in Dallas between January and May of 1963 during which time he recalls picking up LEE HARVEY OSWALD at the Continental Bus Station and driving him to Irving, Texas. OSWALD did not have enough money to pay the fare and told CUMMINGS this enroute to Irving. OSWALD apparently saw the tattoo on CUMMINGS' arm and said that he, too, was an ex-Marine adding that he only had \$1.50. CUMMINGS agreed to carry him to Irving and shut the meter off when it reached \$1.50. He actually shut it off at \$1.45.

CUMMINGS recalls that OSWALD was dressed rather shabbily and was carrying a canvass type handbag similar to those that servicemen carry. OSWALD was wearing a white shirt with sleeves rolled up and was hatless. CUMMINGS conveyed him to a house, the exact address of which he does not remember. OSWALD told CUMMINGS he was "down on his luck". CUMMINGS offered to go with Alcock and me to Irving in an attempt to locate this house.

We met CUMMINGS on Sunday, 26 February 1967 at 12:01 P.M. and drove him to Irving, Texas, 5 miles west of Dallas. Following CUMMINGS' direction we crisscrossed numerous streets in the section of Irving that looked familiar to CUMMINGS. Without making a positive identification CUMMINGS selected 1107 Oakdale Street and said this was more familiar than any other house he had seen with us. The name on the mail box in front of this house was L. L. BARGER. This was a small single residence of wooden construction in a low income, semi-rural neighborhood.

CUMMINGS also informed us that about one week after taking OSWALD to Irving, he picked up three men at the intersection of Marsalis and the Expressway in Dallas and conveyed them in his cab to JACK RUBY's Carousel Club. According to CUMMINGS one of these men was LEE HARVEY OSWALD, another

Describe
pictures?

He
Howard?

Check
trip
sheets

Contact
brother
Have
4A committee
check re D.F.

Show new
pictures (Borley)

DAVID WILLIAM FERRIE and he cannot identify the third man.

He recalls that FERRIE was unusual looking. CUMMINGS identified photographs of OSWALD and FERRIE from a variety of photographs shown to him and admits having seen pictures of both OSWALD and FERRIE in the newspapers. The third man was about 6' in height and looked as if he might have been Italian.

7A CUMMINGS stated that trip sheets at the Yellow Cab Company would assist in corroborating his stories. He has never given this information to anyone nor has he ever been approached by anyone for information.

En route to the Carousel Club, OSWALD remembered CUMMINGS and told him he appreciated the favor he did in taking him to Irving. The three men, as CUMMINGS recalls, were talking about Louisiana. Arriving at the Carousel Club, FERRIE paid the fare and the three passengers went upstairs into the Club. CUMMINGS described FERRIE as "a spook in the night" and felt sorry for him. CUMMINGS then went upstairs into the Club himself and received \$1.50 tip from the man at the door as a gratuity for bringing customers. CUMMINGS added that this gratuity-system was not new.

In this interview CUMMINGS stated that he disliked the Dallas Police Department. He admitted having been arrested once and that was in Belton, Texas. Explaining this arrest, CUMMINGS stated his Mother was hospitalized and needed surgery and he had gone to the bank and withdrawn a large sum of money and was arrested for having a pistol in the front seat of his car which he claims he had for his own protection. CUMMINGS also remarked that he would not object to helping the FBI. CUMMINGS added he has a brother WESLEY CUMMINGS, 38 years of age, residing in Los Angeles, who might have met FERRIE in Dallas. This brother according to CUMMINGS is an alcoholic.

7B Without being asked, CUMMINGS said he would be willing to come to New Orleans if his fare was paid and take a Polygraph test.

RAYMOND CUMMINGS is a white male, 34 years of age and resides at 924 Robinhood, Mesquite, Texas with his wife and children. His phone number is AT-5-6912.

WILLIAM GURVICH
SPECIAL AIDE

WG/leb

SCIAMBRA

Confidential

M E M O R A N D U M

April 18, 1967

TO: Jim Garrison, District Attorney
FROM: William R. Martin, Assistant District Attorney
SUBJECT: Richard Case Nagell, Federal Prisoner No. PMB-A-16606-H
Medical Center for Federal Prisoners, Springfield, Mo.

On Monday morning April 10, 1967 at 7:30 A.M. I departed New Orleans for Springfield, Missouri on board Delta Flight 836. The purpose of this trip was to interview the subject identified above who had offered himself as an informant to this office. Upon arrival in Springfield at 11:17 A.M. I retained yellow cab number 9 and was driven directly to the Federal Center. There I was advised by the guard at the main entrance to the building that he would have to obtain the permission of the classification and parole officer assigned to the subject before I would be allowed visiting privileges. The guard requested that I fill out a "visitors form" and he then took my completed form and the subject's record jacket elsewhere in the building out of my sight and returned at about ten or fifteen minutes and stated that I would be allowed to visit the subject during regular visiting hours from 1 to 3:00 P.M. By this time it was 12:20 P.M. so I elected to have yellow cab number 9 wait for me.

At five minutes to one P.M. I was ushered, along with several other visitors, into a very large and informal waiting room where we were asked to await the arrival of the person whom we had come to visit.

NOTE: Contrary to what I had been told to expect, I was not personally searched nor was my briefcase searched prior to being allowed in to visit the subject. For future reference it should also be noted that the inmates or prisoners of this Federal Medical Center are not allowed to write in any manner or to sign their names to any documents or papers during a visit

without the prior consent of their classification officer. All material written or signed by the inmate is censored by the prison officials and there exists no privileged communication between lawyer and client at this institution unless special arrangements have been made for a private interview by the inmate himself. The visitor is free to write his own notes during the visit with the inmate and may hand the notes and other documents or papers to the inmate for the inmate to read and this is done without supervision or censorship but, in no case may the prisoner write or sign his name or deliver a document to the visitor without the aforementioned prior approval.

The following interview with the subject, Richard Case Nagell, took place over a two day period and a total of four hours of standard visiting hours. The interviews with the subject were made without taking notes since the presence of a note pad and a pencil seem to make the subject nervous and reluctant to speak freely.

The subject was brought into the visiting room promptly at 1:00 P.M. on April 10, 1967 and was brought to my area of the room by the guard supervising the general visiting area.

This visiting area is a large room arranged in an informal manner with many individual clusters of chairs each drawn up to a low table in the center of the cluster of chairs. The visitors face the inmate from their chairs which are drawn up on the opposite side of the small table from the inmate and, I observed that in no case were the visitors allowed to sit side by side with the inmate.

After shaking hands with the subject we both took seats on opposite sides of the table and the subject opened the conversation immediately by saying that he was sorry that he had caused me to make this long trip from New Orleans for no purpose at all. He stated that he had given the matter much thought and that he had decided that it would be useless and not in his own best interests for him to confide in this office or to turn over any

material or evidence to us. He stated that he was worried about recent events and was at this point afraid to confide in anyone. He elaborated that he had become very suspicious of just about everyone and was extremely upset by the way "things were being handled". Further prompted, the subject stated that he had asked his sister to contact Mr. Garrison personally and had given her explicit instructions as to how he had wanted this contact to be established. He said that his sister had gone about things in exactly the wrong way and that she and her husband were trying to play "amateur detective" and that all they were going to succeed in doing would be to get him in even deeper than he was and to stir up more pressure and more trouble. He stated that recently his brother-in-law had visited him in Springfield and had attempted to "interrogate" him very closely about this case and other matters in his past but that he (the subject) had decided to trust absolutely no one and that he would simply let his case and everything pertaining to it remain in the status quo.

At this point it seemed patently unwise to question the subject or to push him in any manner and our conversation was permitted to drift into other unimportant and miscellaneous channels.

The subject was quite interested and willing to reveal to me certain things about himself and about the depth and complexity of his own case and of his past personal life. He stated to me that he had been "a very bad boy for a very long time" and that no one knew of this since he had never discussed his personal beliefs or his personal activities with anyone and had always concealed his activities with a good cover or front. He stated that he had been involved in certain activities which could get him in a tremendous amount of trouble if the activities became known and that he would probably wind up spending the rest of his life in prison if anyone ever discovered exactly, and could prove exactly, what he had been up to. He stated to me that he had been a Marxist-Leninist for many years and that he had no particular love or loyalty to the United States and was not interested in helping the

United States or any of our Government functions, nor was he interested in helping this office with our investigation, for any reason, or out of any motive, whatsoever except insofar as he thought it might be a benefit to him personally and that if he ever did decide to help this office in any manner it would only be because he decided that it would help "this number one boy" (at this point the subject pointed to himself).

The subject became intensely curious about our investigation and, as our conversation progressed, he stated that he was pleased to see that I was willing to bring him up to date on our investigation insofar as the non-confidential aspects were concerned and he stated that he was certain that, at this stage of the game, we too had our hands full with amateur sleuths who were coming out of the woodwork. Our discussion continued along this general pattern until I mentioned to the subject that he really should not be ^{too} disturbed or upset by the conduct or amateurish approach of his sister and brother-in-law since, after all, it was the best that could be expected of anyone who was not accustomed to this sort of thing and that they certainly could not be expected to behave as professionals.

At this point the subject stated that this was precisely the professionalism he was looking for when he had asked that he be contacted by Mr. Garrison. He stated that he had kept account of our progress as best he could through his limited access to newspapers and that he admired Mr. Garrison for his willingness to undertake this investigation and expose the truth regardless of where it may lead. The subject stated that he had seen Mr. Garrison on television, or had perhaps read ⁱⁿ a newspaper, Mr. Garrison's statement that "let justice be done though the heavens crumble" and that he (the subject) had been very much impressed with this statement and had hoped to be able to assist Mr. Garrison and, in so doing, ultimately assist himself and benefit his own position.

At this point I assured the subject that any information or material he released to Mr. Garrison's office would be handled with the strictest confidence and that it would receive the most competent and professional treatment that the office could make available. With no further encouragement the subject began to discuss the Kennedy assassination and his own relationship to it.

He stated that there had actually been three separate plots to assassinate President Kennedy. The first was a plan to kill President Kennedy by bombing (a concealed bomb in the speaker's platform or the speaker's podium) on the occasion of December or January of 1962 when the President traveled to Miami, Florida to address the group of Cuban prisoners who had taken part in the Bay of Pigs invasion and who had just been released and returned to the States. A second and similar plan to kill the President was to have taken place in June of 1963 when the President had traveled to Los Angeles for an important speaking engagement. The subject stated that the first and second plots (above mentioned) had never really become serious and that the plans never did reach more than just the talking stage. The third and final plot, which did in fact end with the assassination of President Kennedy, was an offshoot of the other two plans and was planned and put into effect by the same group of people.

The subject stated that these plots to kill President Kennedy had each involved several men, some of them Cubans, and that all three plots had been based along the same thinking and logic.

At this point the subject asked me if I was aware of the fact that the Cuban refugees in the United States had formed and organized a great number of movements, organizations, groups, and societies all of which were, in one way or another, dedicated to the overthrow of Fidel Castro. Most of these organizations of Cubans are either formal or semi-formal organizations with elected Presidents and officers and go under a variety of names, such as "Alpha 66", "Jure", "Cuban Revolutionary Democratic Front", etc.

The subject made it expressly clear at that time that none of these organizations, acting as organizations, planned to assassinate, or in fact assassinated, President Kennedy. Rather, he stated, that the Cubans who took an active part in the assassination acted as individuals and that they did not all belong to one organization or even to two organizations, even though they had all come together and become known to each other because of these organizations.

At this point the subject became rather nervous and seemed to be reluctant to continue his description of what had taken place in connection with the Kennedy assassination. He asked a variety of questions concerning the theories on which Mr. Garrison had been working and whether or not we had received or had been offered any cooperation by the Central Intelligence Agency or the Federal Bureau of Investigation. I assured the subject that insofar as the Kennedy assassination was concerned, that this office was working entirely independently of any other organization and that we did not believe that the FBI or the CIA could be inclined to offer us any assistance. This statement seemed to relax the subject a bit because, as he said, the information he was about to give me, or could give me, was not such that it would enhance the public image of either the FBI or the CIA.

At this time the guard in the visitors room at the Medical Center for Federal Prisoners announced that visiting hours were over and the subject and I were forced to take very rapid leave of each other. Prior to departing the subject asked me if I could possibly stay in town and return during the next visiting hours and I assured him that I had no intention of leaving town until after he had told me everything he had to say. This concluded my first interview with the subject, Richard Case Nagell at 3:00 P.M. on April 10, 1967.

Upon leaving the visiting area of the Medical Center I asked to speak to the prison social director Mr. Matthews and to the classification and parole officer in charge of the subject's case. Neither of these gentlemen were available to speak to me and I was asked to return later in the afternoon to see them and I was also asked to leave a message as to the nature of the business I had with them. I left word that I wished to make arrangements for a privileged attorney-client interview with the subject since I had not been satisfied with our meeting in a public meeting room. For the rest of the day and during the morning of the next day both of these men successfully avoided and evaded my attempts to see them in their offices.

On Tuesday morning at 8:30 A.M. I returned to the Medical Center for Federal Prisoners and continued my interview with the subject, Richard Case Nagell. Without preliminaries Mr. Nagell continued our conversation exactly where it had been interrupted the day before by asking me what theory Mr. Garrison was working on as regards the assassination of President Kennedy. The subject apologized to me for having to ask me to explain our theory or theories and explained himself by saying that he was very much concerned lest we involve him by accident in more trouble with the FBI or the CIA. The subject said that he could not afford, at this point, more trouble with either of these organizations and that he had to make absolutely certain that our approach to the investigation of the assassination was not such that, with the information that he could give us, would lead him, in his own words, into more hot water.

At this time I presented to the subject the following possibility:

That early in the Castro regime in Cuba, various efforts were made by patriotic and anti-communist cubans, to overthrow and/or to assassinate Fidel Castro. That these efforts included small guerrilla raids launched from the Florida Keys, small attempts to land weapons and explosives in Cuba for use by the anti-Castro

Cubans, and efforts on the part of many refugee Cubans in the United States to form large organizations to collect money and weapons and to train forces for an invasion of Cuba to overthrow and/or assassinate Fidel Castro. That much of this anti-Castro work was encouraged, sponsored and financed by the Central Intelligence Agency and that for all practical purposes these miscellaneous efforts on the part of the Cubans and the CIA had been totally useless. Adding insult to injury, the Bay of Pigs invasion, an acknowledged CIA operation, was a total disaster when the Kennedy administration decided at the last minute that they could not afford, publicly, to lend our support to the Bay of Pigs Invasion in the form of Air Support and invading troupes which had been promised to the Cuban invaders. That during the long imprisonment of the Cuban troupes of the Bay of Pigs Invasion, the entire invasion operation-CIA involvement was publicly investigated and openly criticized, and that the Kennedy administration had stated as their final excuse, that world opinion and the opinion of the American public was insufficiently aroused to justify an armed invasion by the United States of the Island of Cuba. That this rational so inflamed many of the Cuban refugees that a group of individual Cubans along with a few United States citizens decided to take matters into their own hands and to perform an act so violent and outlandish in itself, that it would instantly arouse United States and world opinion to such an extreme pitch that an armed invasion by the United States, with United States military forces, would be then justified on the Island of Cuba. This single act, designed to inflame world opinion, was the assassination of President Kennedy. That this assassination was planned originally in such a manner that the assassins and/or their fall guy would be able to take immediate refuge in Cuba and that this, in addition to other evidence which was intended to come to light, would make the assassination look as though it had been designed, planned and executed under the orders of the Fidel Castro regime in Cuba. This, the involvement of Fidel Castro in the assassination of President

Kennedy, would then justify an immediate invasion of Cuba by the United States military forces.

Throughout my explanation of the above possibility the subject had followed my words with extreme interest and had nodded his head vigorously on occasion. He now stated "that is absolutely right", as a general picture, but of course there are some fine points here and there that you have not covered". He went on to say that we were obviously aware of many of these fine points, or we would not know as much as we already obviously did. He also stated that the evidence which he wanted to give to Mr. Garrison was of such a nature as to "wrap up and put a seal on" the entire investigation.

In discussing the evidence that he wished to turn over to Mr. Garrison the subject went into some minor detail as to how he came to possess the evidence. The subject stated that for a long time he, as a Marxist-Leninist, had worked "for the other side" and had worked under the specific control of the Soviet Embassy in Mexico City. In this connection, the subject stated that he had done a variety of work assigned to him out of the Soviet Embassy in Mexico City and that he had been briefed by a member of that Embassy as to the Miami and Los Angeles plots to assassinate President Kennedy. As to the assassination in Dallas the subject stated that his only connection was to function as a watchdog for the Soviet Embassy and to inform them of exactly what was taking place and of what progress was being made on a day to day basis. The subject was able, in some manner which he did not disclose, to infiltrate the assassination plot and, for a reason of his own which he did not disclose, the subject was able to make a tape recording of four voices in conversation concerning the plot which ended in the assassination of President Kennedy. It is precisely this tape recording which the subject has decided to turn over to Mr. Garrison as soon as he possibly can.

Concerning the content of the tape recording in question, the subject stated that it was a tape recording made of a conversation of four individuals and that the tape was primarily in Spanish although on certain occasions in the tape certain of the participants lapsed into English. When questioned as to the identity of the persons speaking on the tape the subject stated openly that one of them was "Arcacha" and another individual whom the subject would only identify ^{AS} as "Q". The subject did not wish to go into more detail concerning the tape at that time since he, all during our previous conversations, had indicated that our conversation could possibly be bugged.

As to the method of our obtaining the tape recording, the subject advised as follows:

The tape in question, along with a variety of other tape recordings, papers and other items highly incriminating to the subject, are in a box or small trunk which the subject left in the safekeeping and care of an intimate ^{and} /trusted friend. An arrangement was made between the subject and this friend that under no circumstances was this box or trunk or any of its contents to be released to any person whatsoever, other than the subject, unless the friend were to be approached by a person bearing a handwritten letter in the handwriting of the subject, which letter would have to be signed by the subject in a certain secret manner. If anyone were to approach the friend and attempt to obtain the box or any of its contents without first having obtained this letter signed in a secret manner, then, in that case, the friend had instructions to destroy ^{that} anything and everything /had been left in his safekeeping by the subject.

Mr. Nagell then indicated to me that he was willing to whisper to me the name, address and telephone number of the friend with whom he had left this evidence but prior to doing so the subject asked me to pledge my word that the name, address and telephone number of the individual would not be written down in this report. He indicated that he was aware of the possibility that

this report, or copies of this report, could conceivably leave this office and fall into the hands of the FBI or the CIA. The subject indicated that if this should happen, he was sure that the FBI would charge in on his friend, kick in his front door, and harass him into turning over all of the aforementioned material. He stated that "this material is my whole future" and indicated that he had to be particularly careful of how it was handled. This being the case, the name, address and telephone number of the subject's friend does not appear in this report but has been turned over to Mr. Garrison for use at his discretion.

The subject and I then entered into a lengthy discussion as to how the letter in question directed to his friend could be placed into my hands; bearing in mind the fact that the subject was not able to deliver to me anything in writing and that all of his outgoing written material was very closely censored. It was resolved that there were two possibilities:

1. That the subject would immediately request of the prison officials at the Medical Center that he be granted privileged attorney-client interviews with me and that if this request were granted he would then be able to smuggle this letter to me.

2. The subject stated that he was scheduled to be sent back to Leavenworth Federal Penitentiary within a few days and since privileged communications at Leavenworth were much easier to come by than in the Medical Center, he would be able to hand me the letter in question if I were to visit him at Leavenworth.

The subject asked that I return to Springfield within a few days to attempt to see him under privileged circumstances since in his own words, "time is of the essence". If this effort is unsuccessful then a second effort will be made when the subject is transferred to Leavenworth.

IMPRESSIONS AND OPINIONS: The subject, Richard Case Nagell, is an extremely articulate and well spoken individual who seems to have full command of his senses and total recall of his

activities and constantly mentions dates, times and places that pertain to matters concerning this investigation. He is of the opinion that he will be forced to complete his full ten year prison sentence, of which six years remain, unless he offers to cooperate with the FBI. It is his impression that this cooperation would mean the release to the FBI of all of the material incident to his association with the Soviet Embassy in Moscow and he is not willing to do this. Mr. Nagell stated to me that in six years from now (i.e. when he is released from prison), he will then be forced to make a final decision of either leaving this country (United States) forever or remaining in this country in good standing forever. It is his opinion that everything will depend on how the aforementioned box or trunk containing his possessions is handled. I received the impression that Mr. Nagell does not really care, one way or the other, whether he leaves this country or not in six years since he feels that it is possible for him to live in peace either in the United States or in the Soviet Union depending on the circumstances at that time. Although Mr. Nagell stated to me that he felt no particular loyalty to the United States and had worked with the Soviet Union as a matter of principle and personal convictions, he also stated to me that the release of his tape recording to Mr. Garrison was his first step in seeing what he could do to "square himself" with this country.

At this point the guard in the visiting area announced the end of visiting hours and the subject and I parted with my promise to return to Springfield within a few days to attempt to see him under privileged visiting conditions.

At approximately 11:00 A.M. on Tuesday April 11, 1967 I returned to my room in the Candlelight Motel in Springfield and made arrangements to travel to Kansas City for the purpose of meeting with Mr. Lawrence Loftus, an attorney practicing in the

State of Kansas with offices in the Hedrick Land Title Corp^{Bldg.} in Olathe, Kansas.

Pioneer Air Taxi Service from Springfield to Kansas City, Kansas departed Springfield Airport at 3:30 P.M. that date and arrived Kansas City, Kansas at 4:30 P.M. I boarded this flight and was met at the Kansas City Airport by Mr. Loftus.

Throughout the following day, Wednesday, April 12, 1967, I remained with Mr. Loftus in his^{law} offices reviewing the procedural aspects of the handling of prisoners in both Leavenworth Federal Penitentiary and the Medical Center for Federal Prisoners in Springfield. Mr. Loftus, who has had a good deal of experience with inmates at Leavenworth, is of the opinion that there will be no difficulty in obtaining privileged communications with the subject once he is transferred to Leavenworth. He also stated that privileged communications should be able to be obtained in Springfield Medical Center but only at the request of the prisoner. This was basically the same information which had been obtained in Springfield and was confirmed by my research of this date. At 8:15 P.M. I departed Kansas City on 12th of April 1967 to return to New Orleans on Braniff Flight 241.

Every effort will be exerted to obtain the letter in question from the subject and, subsequently, to obtain the tape recording referred to by Mr. Nagell.

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY

STATE OF LOUISIANA

PARISH OF ORLEANS

April 5, 1967

STATEMENT OF: CLYDE JOHNSON
BOX 327
Kentwood, Louisiana

RE: SPECIAL INVESTIGATION

On March 30, 1967 I called the District Attorney's Office in New Orleans and told them I had information concerning the case and I had previously talked to Sargent Pitcher in East Baton Rouge Parish. I asked the District Attorney's Office in New Orleans to convey me from Kentwood, Louisiana to New Orleans. I arrived in the District Attorney's Office at approximately 6:15 P.M. on March 30, 1967, at which time I gave certain information to Michale Karmazin, Assistant District Attorney. This information is relative to the assassination of John F. Kennedy.

In 1963 I was a candidate for governor of Louisiana and was campaigning about the State of Louisiana. Sometime around July or August 1963 I received a telephone page in the lobby of the Roosevelt Hotel where I was staying. I was coming through the lobby and my cars were parked in front of the hotel and in front of the garage. (These were cars used in the campaign with stickers on them). I also had a brief case with a bumper sticker pasted on it saying "CLYDE JOHNSON FOR GOVERNOR". I had a suite in the hotel and had several supporters in the room with me. I went to the house phone and the party on the line told me to meet him at the entrance of the hotel. He had introduced himself over the telephone as MR. ALTON BERNARD. I met him and we went into the Blue Room, sat at a table and talked for about 20 minutes or better. He (ALTON BERNARD) said he had seen me on TV several times and said he liked my spirit and encouraged me to go ahead and keep fighting and making speeches against Kennedy. We talked about the Cuban crisis and he said Kennedy was wrong there. First of all, he said the invasion should never have taken place. Then he encouraged me to work and talk about the air support that Kennedy had failed to give. He also talked about the inter-racial matter. That was one of the main things I was working on. He said keep the pressure on him and keep public opinion against him. Then before we got up to leave he gave me a brown envelope with \$2,000.00 in it in \$100 bills, which he said was for me to use in the campaign. Then I went upstairs. My wife was already upstairs. Then we came down and a time after that the car was delivered.

47
After this I received several telephone calls from ALTON BERNARD and each time he would encourage me, and these conversations always led to Kennedy every time. It seemed to be an obsession with him. I figured he was a Republican with more money than he had sense. Subsequently, about the first part of September in 1963, I received a telephone call from ALTON BERNARD and he instructed me to meet him at the Capitol House Hotel in Baton Rouge. I went to Baton Rouge and had a suite in the Capitol House. Some time after I had gone to my room, I received a phone call and he (ALTON BERNARD) was on the line in the lobby and I told him to come up. In 4 or 5 minutes he was in my room. He had another party with him whom he introduced to me as LEON. ALTON BERNARD talked to me about 10 minutes and said someone else was coming up that he had asked them to meet him there in my room. After we talked about 10 minutes there was a knock on the door and this other party was introduced to me as JACK only. At the time ALTON BERNARD first entered he was accompanied by a tall, big Mexican looking fellow with a mustache to whom I wasn't introduced, but who remained at the door. After JACK entered, then we had another conversation which included LEON, JACK and ALTON BERNARD who were talking among themselves. I left the room to go into the bathroom in the other room and while in there I overheard a conversation among the three men. One of them said, to the effect that he would get him. I heard ALTON BERNARD say there was some others working on this. I thought they were talking about me so I went and got my pistol out of my brief case and a thought flashed through my mind to either go out the door and get to a telephone when I heard one say "Well, he's got to come down from Washington the pressure is on. He's got to come back" So I knew that they weren't talking about me then and I put the gun in my pocket and went back in and sat down. When I came back into the room JACK said, "What about him?" and pointed toward me. ALTON BERNARD said, "That's all right. He's one of my boys." When I came back from the bathroom and after the conversation, ALTON BERNARD had a brief case and he opened it up and gave JACK a brown envelope which was thick. He also handed a brown envelope to LEON which was not as thick. About the time they were ready to depart, he (ALTON BERNARD) gave me a brown envelope which contained 50-\$100 bills. After the meeting in Baton Rouge, he called me several times. I was in the Bentley House in Alexandria when I received several calls from ALTON BERNARD.

On March 30, 1966, at approximately 6:30 P.M. I was shown a group of photographs totaling 35 in number, at which time I picked out the 3 photographs of the people whom I have identified as ALTON BERNARD, LEON and JACK.

The person whom I have identified as JACK was 165-170 lbs, approximately 5'8" tall, dark hair which was thinning and with a receding hairline.

The person I identified as LEON was approximately 5'9" tall, 140-150 lbs, small stubble of beard; his hairline was receding and in need of cutting; he had a hatchet-like face and wore casual clothing.

The person I identified as ALTON BERNARD was well dressed with shirt, tie and suit and over 6 feet tall, heavy, possibly over 200 pounds. high cheek bones; very articulate, i.e., well spoken; grey hair.

The person who was introduced to me as JACK I subsequently identified and one I selected out of 35 photographs, is the same person whom I know to be JACK RUBY.

The person who was introduced as LEON and whose photograph I selected out of the 35 photographs I now know him to be LEE HARVEY OSWALD.

The person who introduced himself to me as ALTON BERNARD and whom I had met on 2 occasions and from whom I had received a total amount of \$7,000.00, and whom I selected from the 35 photographs, I now identify as CLAY SHAW.

The reason I have not come forward prior to this time is that I had known that OSWALD was arrested and subsequently shot by JACK RUBY, and that JACK RUBY was tried and convicted and subsequently died. It was only after I had seen CLAY SHAW's pictures in the newspaper and on TV that I associated RUBY, OSWALD and SHAW as being the persons in my room in Baton Rouge. I have been scared and I also felt that the law has been taking its natural course when they apprehended OSWALD and RUBY and it was only at the time that I associated CLAY SHAW as being the other person that the full impact of the events that occurred in my room struck me.

I have received no promises whatsoever and I am not looking for any, and although I am not a pro-Kennedy man, in my way I referred back to the Bible which states "Know the truth and it shall make you free", and I am making this statement in the cause of justice


CLYDE JOHNSON

Witnesses James L. Alcock, A.D.A.
Louisiana Chief Investigator

Sworn and subscribed This 5th Day of April
1967 in the City of New Orleans after being duly sworn
and in the presence of James L. Alcock and Louis Johnson
Michael L. Rasmussen
Notary Public

D

Mr. Byron P. Legendre
Executive Assistant
District Attorney
Criminal District Court
2700 Tulane Avenue
New Orleans, Louisiana 70119

REF: GARRISON & GERVAIS MATTER;

August 23th, 1971

Dear Mr. Legendre:

May I take this opportunity in writing you again concerning the matter of Mr. Jim Garrison and Mr. P. Gervais and the allege Pinball payoffs. I doubt that you or some of your office staff would beleive me when I say that in Febuary I was asked by Mr. Gervais at the Motel on Tulane where he has Suite Office to take one or two of my girls to where Mr. Garrison and Mr. John Voke would be drinking in the Lounge at the Downtowner Motel.

This was the night that Mr. Voke was appointed as his new First Assistant and that I was to come up and talk with Mr. Garrison and offer to buy drinks and introduce myself and the girls (since he was well known around Bourbon, Street before becoming D.A) I was to hand Mr. Garrison an Envelope from Mr. Gervais and at the same time pictures was to be taken. In payment for this service I was to recive a large sum \$300.00 and the exclusive rights to having my girls work the Two Lounges and the Motel. I'm sure that the Bartenders and Doorman will remember me. In fact on the list of names I once gave you at your office I'm more then sure that Mr. Gervais name did appear on same. I am forwarding this information to you for whatever use you wish to make of it as a personal friend. I also would like to take this opportunity in thanking you for the help shown me in the many Vice cases which was pending before the courts. Hoping to see you again in the near future. I am.

Respectfully Yours



ROBERT P. MURRAY
71990, Mag - 1
State Approved Trusty
Angola, Louisiana 70712

P.S. I shall be returning to New Orleans ~~on~~ on or about September 10th, 1971 for Federal Court. I'm working as the Clerk in the Electric Department.

I did walk up and say Hello to Mr. Garrison because there where Three at the Table on the Toulouse Street side of the Lounge.

M E M O R A N D U M

April 11, 1967

TO: JIM GARRISON, DISTRICT ATTORNEY

FROM: LOUIS IVON, CHIEF INVESTIGATOR

RE: STATEMENT OF:
EDWARD McMILLAN, W/M age 41
Route 1, Box 395, Kentwood, Louisiana

On January 11, 1964, I checked into the Monteleone Hotel on Royal Street in New Orleans, about noon or a little after. We went to New Orleans after voting in the Sixth Ward in St. Helena Parish. I had my wife with me and CLYDE JOHNSON had his wife with him. I drove to New Orleans in our 1959 Chevrolet Station Wagon. This wagon was given to CLYDE and myself by one of our backers during the Governor's campaign. The station wagon had posters all over it "CLYDE JOHNSON FOR GOVERNOR and ED McMILLAN FOR LT. GOVERNOR". This was the end of the Second Primary and we had John McKeithen's signs posted over ours.

We went straight to the Monteleone Hotel when we checked in. I got a room for me and my wife which was next to CLYDE and his wife. After straightening up a bit, my wife and I then went to Brennan's to eat and returned to our room. After a while, my wife and I went downstairs to the Carousel Lounge and had a few drinks. A while later CLYDE and his wife joined us. We stood down there for about 30 or 40 minutes then we all returned to our rooms. We sat around talking about how the election would come out. We were hoping that the weather would be bad to keep the New Orleans people in so we would have a better chance to win because we knew the country people would come out.

We then got a call from one of the TV people to come down for an interview before the returns would start coming in. We all went down for the interview and stood down there until most of the returns were in and we were about 40,000 votes on top and most of the people were leaving. I then went by the Jefferson Parish reception room where Tom Donelon and his group was and stood there for a while. I then went up to CLYDE's room and when I entered, I was introduced to several people in the room by CLYDE. I had a couple of drinks in the room, in fact, just about everybody had some drinks and everybody was talking about the election. CLYDE was sitting on one of the beds in a "T"-shirt. There were three or four other people sitting on this bed and other people sitting on the other bed. There were only two chairs in the room. I had to stand up in the room. The man I picked out from the photographs that you showed me was sitting on the other bed from CLYDE. These were twin beds. This fellow in the photograph, I don't remember the name that I was introduced to him, but I do remember that the big, white hair fellow in the photograph told Quida (CLYDE's wife) to fix him a drink and CLYDE told him, "You get up and fix your own damn drink. My wife is not a barmaid."

He got up and fixed his own drink but looked a CLYDE funny. I stood a while in the room and the big fellow didn't say much and I believe I told CLYDE's wife that I was going down to the Famous Door and if the company in the room left to meet us down there, (my wife and I). They never did show up and I stood there until about 3:30 A.M. and went back to my hotel and went to bed.

Q by L. I.

Q. Were you introduced to this man you identified from the photograph as having been in CLYDE's room?

A. Yes, but I can't remember the names of the people, there were so many people with the election.

Q. Have you ever seen this particular man (showing him the photograph of CLAY SHAW) before January 11, 1964, or after January 11, 1964?

A. I don't believe so.

Q. Has anybody talked to you about this man or told you to identify this man?

A. No. I seen the man in the hotel room, that's all.

Q. Why haven't you come forward with this information before? Did you receive any promises from anybody to give us this information? Any threats?

A. The reason I have not come forward prior to this time is that I didn't want to become involved.

I have received no promises, no threats, in order to make this statement. I have made this statement on my own free will, and as I see it. And I can't see why or how by seeing the man I identified in this photo numbered 125388 as being implicated in anything. The man was in CLYDE JOHNSON's room on the night of the election.

/s/ F. E. McMillan
Route 1, Box 395
Kentwood, Louisiana

NOTE: The above statement, consisting of three (3) pages of yellow, legal paper, taken in longhand by Detective Louis Ivon and witnessed by Detective Lynn Loisel, was taken on April 11, 1967 and completed about 4:40 P.M. This was taken in Kentwood, Louisiana, by Louis Ivon in Edward McMillan's own words, and read back to him before his signature was placed at the end along with his address.

Also attached to this statement are two (2) photographs of CLAY SHAW that Mr. McMILLAN identified as the man in CLYDE JOHNSON's room. Both photographs were initialed by Mr. McMillan and dated and witnessed by Louis Ivon and Lynn Loisel.

Scientific Lie Detection
Confidential Examinations

Polygraph, Inc.

Polygraph Examinations

ROY L. JACOB, SR.
Phone HU. 6-5120

P. O. Box 914
METAIRIE, LA.

Mr. William Gurvich
610 Boydras Street
Suite 309
New Orleans, Louisiana

4/15/67

ARRANGEMENTS:

At your request, Carlos (N) Qurioga cuban male age 30 residing at 3134 Derby Place New Orleans, was examined on the polygraph, a detection of deception technique. Subject matter statement in Mr. Garrison investigation.

PRE-TEST INTERVIEW:

In the pre-test interview with subject he gave the following information:

Subject was born in Cuba and has completed his college education Subject married Maria Schiro and they have two children.

RESULTS:

Subject was given five(5) test.

TEST#1.

After careful analysis of this subject's first polygram it is the opinion of the examiner that he gave specific reactions indicative of deception to the relevant question under examination:

Question #4.

Do you have any first-hand knowledge of the conspiracy to assassinate President Kennedy? Answer No.

TEST#2.

Verify Job Applications - Fidelity - Integrity - Frauds - Inventory Shortages - Criminal - Personnel Screening - Portable Equipment Available

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METAIRIE, LA.

Page (2) Carlos Qurioga Cuban Male 30

After careful analysis of this subject's second polygram it is the opinion of the examiner that he gave specific reactions indicative of deception to the relevant questions under examination:

QUESTION #2.

In the Summer of 1963 did you see Lee Oswald with any Latin decent subject? Answer No. ✓

QUESTION #3.

Isn't it a fact that you knew that the Fair Play for Cuba activities were merely a cover? Answer No. ✓

QUESTION #5.

Was Oswald in reality part of af an anti-Castro operation? Answer No. ✓

QUESTION#12.

According to your own knowledge, did David Ferrie know Sergio Arcacha? Answer No. ✓

TEST #3..

After careful analysis of this subject's third polygram it is the opinion of the examiner that he gave specific reactions indicative of deception to the relevant questions under examination:

QUESTION #3.

According to your own knowledge, did David Ferrie know Guy Banister? Answer No. ✓

QUESTION#6.

Verify Job Applications - Fidelity - Integrity - Frauds - Inventory Shortages - Criminal - Personnel Screening - Portable Equipment Available

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Page (3) Carlos Quiroga Cuban Male 30.

Do you know of any other person that knew Oswald in 1963 other than by chance encounters? Answer No.

QUESTION #10.

Prior to the assassination of the President, did you ever see any of the guns which were used in his assassination? Answer No.

TEST #4;

After careful analysis of this subject's fourth polygram it is the opinion of the examiner that he told substantitally the truth on his fourth examination.

TEST #5.

After careful analysis of this subject's fifth polygram it is the opinion of the examiner that he gave specific reactions indicative of deception to the relevant name:

According to your knowledge or information, did any of the following persons have any knowledge of Lee Oswald's activities prior to the assassination:

Celso Hernandez? Answer No.

Subject stated that the above subject had a fight with Oswald on Canal Street.

SUBJECT WAS SHOWN PHOTOGRAPHS OF SUBJECTS:

Subject identified the following photographs:

1. David Ferrie
2. Sergio Arcacha

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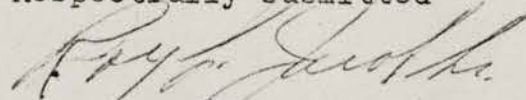
P. O. Box 914
METAIRIE, LA.

Page (4) Carlos Quiroga Cuban Male 30

CONCLUSIONS:

After careful analysis of this subject's polygram it is the opinion of the the examiner that this subject did not tell the complete truth during his examination and interrogation.

Respectfully submitted



Roy L. Jacob Sr. Examiner

Verify Job Applications - Fidelity - Integrity - Frauds - Inventory Shortages* - Criminal - Personnel Screening - Portable Equipment Available

EXAMINERS TRAINED BY WORLD FAMOUS
KEELER POLYGRAPH INSTITUTE, OF CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

M E M O R A N D U M

May 18, 1967 (Dictated & Transcribed)

TO: JIM GARRISON, District Attorney
FROM: PENN JONES
RE: INVESTIGATION

I was on a radio show in Dallas, Texas about 4 months ago. A couple of days after the show a man by the name of RICHARD CARR contacted me by telephone and said he just had to talk to me. I went to Mr. CARR's home and spent about 3 hours with him.

On November 22, 1963 he was on the construction elevator of the new Dallas County Courthouse, 7 floors above the ground, from which location he had a good view of the assassination scene. He reported to me that he saw 2 white men run from behind the wooden fence, that location being the one which we claim some of the shots came from which killed President Kennedy. CARR stated that the 2 men ran in a Northeasterly direction behind the School Book Depository Building, and while they were out of sight they were joined by a colored man (he called him a Negro). The colored man got in the driver's seat of a gray Rambler Station Wagon. One white man got in the rear seat on the left-hand side and the car drove North on Houston, turning to the right on Pacific. The other man, a dark complexioned white male, about 5'8", heavyset, wearing dark rimmed glasses, brown hat and brown coat, walked South on Houston Street and turned to the left up Main Street where he disappeared from view.

CARR further stated that while the shots were being fired he saw one bullet hit the ground behind the President's car.

Mr. CARR not only is a "rifle buff", having a beautiful rifle case with several rifles on the wall of his home, he was an enlisted man in the 5th Ranger Battalion during World War II, and was wounded in combat three times. His occupation at this time is steel worker and he was on the Courthouse side that day applying for a job. He has a wife and 3 children, and as I left his home he begged me not to get him killed. I have never released his statement or name to anyone except to Mr. Garrison.

Within 2 or 3 days after the assassination, the F.B.I. visited him in his home. They were very brusque and insulting in their manner, and they told Mr. CARR if he did not see OSWALD shoot out of the 6th floor window he had better keep his damn mouth shut.

5-
Confirmation
Ray has
name...

An F.B.I. man from Little Rock was the next man to visit in Mr. CARR's home. He took CARR down to the F.B.I. headquarters in Dallas for a 3-hour interview but was completely courteous and did not suggest any course for Mr. CARR.

JIM GARRISON

Additional biographical information

EDUCATION

Bachelor of Laws degree, Tulane University, 1949

Master of Laws degree, Tulane University, 1951

POLITICAL

In 1961 I was elected District Attorney of New Orleans. Inasmuch as I was not supported by any political organization, I had no serious expectation of winning. However, the District Attorney's office at that time had fallen on bad times and I wanted to help any one of the candidates who had a chance to improve the office. As it turned out, I received more votes than they did -- and received more votes than the incumbent did -- and that is how I became District Attorney. The best laid plans of mice and men ...

I was re-elected in 1965 in the first primary. Last November I was re-elected again in the first primary.

MILITARY

My service in the field artillery began in 1939 when I joined the National Guard at the age of 17. In 1941 I went on active duty with my outfit and served five years in the Army in World War II.

After becoming a commissioned officer, during World War II, I volunteered for training as a liaison pilot (a designation changed after the war to Army Aviator). I finished my training and received my wings.

In this capacity my customary assignment was to pilot a light plane over the front lines. In the seat behind me was an observer. Just in front of him, replacing the customary second joy stick, was a fifty pound radio for communication to the artillery battalions and groups which we were serving. The

airplanes which we used in Europe were unarmored light planes. I flew in combat in France and Germany and was awarded the Air Medal.

After the war ended I returned to the Louisiana National Guard, still in the Field Artillery. A few years ago, after more than twenty years service in the artillery, I retired as a Lieutenant Colonel.

I am now a Lieutenant Colonel of field artillery in the inactive reserves.

2700 Tulane Avenue
New Orleans, Louisiana 70119
June 26, 1970

Mr. Arthur Fields
G. P. Putnam's Sons
200 Madison Avenue
New York, New York 10016

Dear Mr. Fields:

I enjoyed talking with you the other day.

Enclosed is the additional biographical material we discussed.

One thing concerns me. That is the general impression people have acquired -- or have been given -- that John Kennedy was merely just another escalating President and that Lyndon Johnson was simply carrying on what Eisenhower and Kennedy did. The evidence showing that Kennedy was an anti-war president and that he refused to escalate in Viet Nam -- even against the pressure of the Joint Chiefs -- is quite solid and irrefutable. However, you have to look at 1963 and 1964 research materials to find this.

In recent years that bit of history has been re-written. One after the other the columnists refer to Kennedy as being -- with regard to Viet Nam -- just an early Johnson. Johnson, these people seem to believe, was merely carrying on. Even well informed commentators such as Eric Sevareid now seem to take that for granted.

Recently I researched that point -- that crucial point -- again. The record is explicit and clear -- that Kennedy was stubbornly blocking any further expansion in Indo-China, that plans even were under way -- not to send a half million more troops -- but to bring home the advisors we had over there.

My thought is this. We can assume that there will be attacks on the book from some quarters. This is most likely the only area left to attack because the footnotes, as you know, were confirmed separately by an objective reviewer. (Even good material was discarded when there was the slightest question about it). The

June 26, 1970

Mr. Arthur Fields

predictable avenue of attack will be to have a Warren Commission "critic" who is really government connected (most of the early ones are, believe it or not) to do the review. Or the book review can be done by a political commentator who is presented as a close observer of foreign policy for many years (e.g., Joseph Alsop). The theme, of course, would be that "this is all very interesting, Mr. Garrison, but you have not done your homework. Being a District Attorney is one thing and being competent to comment on our foreign policy is another."

I am sure that you know by now that I have done my homework. Most of our commentators and popular historians have failed to do theirs.

What I had in mind -- because this point is so important -- would be an Appendix ii ("President Kennedy's Opposition to Escalation"). In this Appendix there would be listed -- down to the page number -- the evidence of Kennedy's uncompromising opposition to escalation. The reader could be led to this by an asterisk at the most propitious point so that the footnote numbers are not disturbed.

Or do you think it is sufficiently clear that, following the Cuban missile crisis, Kennedy became distinctly anti-war in his outlook? I don't feel that it is but, in any case, I leave the decision up to you. It would take me no more than a day to do this because I have accumulated most of the relevant research material during the course of writing the book.

Another question: Can there be a dedication page? Or is it too late? If there can be a dedication page is it possible to use the same page for acknowledgements (Sciambra, Salandria, etc.) -- perhaps at the bottom of the page in smaller print?

Sincerely,

JIM GARRISON

JG:sh

cc: Mr. Max Gartenberg

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URGENT 1:45 AM EST 11-17-63 HLF

1 PAGE

TO ALL SACS
FROM DIRECTOR

THREAT TO ASSISINATE PRESIDENT KENNEDY IN DALLAS TEXAS
NOVEMBER TWENTYTWO DASH TWENTYTHREE NINETEEN SIXTYTHREE.
MISC INFORMATION CONCERNING.

INFO HAS BEEN RECEIVED BY THE BUREAU
BUREAU HAS ~~XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX~~ DETERMINED THAT A MILITANT
REVOLUTIONARY GROUP MAY ATTEMPT TO ASSINATED PRESIDENT
KENNEDY ON HIS PROPOSED TRIP TO DALLAS TEXAS ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~
~~XXXXXXXXXX~~ NOVEMBER TWENTYTWO DASH TWENTYTHREE NINETEEN
SICTYTHREE.

ALL RECEIVING OFFICE SHOULS IMMIDIATELY CONTACT ALL CIS;
PCIS LOGICAL RACIAL AND HATE GROPUPIFORMANTS AND DETERMINE IF
ANY BASIS FOR THREAT. BHRGEU SHOULS BE KEPT ADVISED OF ALL
DEVELOPEMENTS BY TELETYPE .

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Never Before Published Documents Prove: FBI Had Five-Day Warning

DURING the early morning hours of November 17, 1963, the teletype machine in the FBI office in New Orleans began to rattle away. William S. Walter, a young security clerk, walked over to the machine. Walter was alone in the office. His regular working hours were from midnight until 8:00 a.m. He read the message, which was addressed "To all SACS" (Special Agents in Charge of the various offices of the FBI), and noted that it came from the Bureau "Director," J. Edgar Hoover. The message read "Urgent." Walter read it carefully.

It was headed "Threat to assassinate President Kennedy in Dallas Texas November Twenty Two Dash Twenty Three Nineteen Sixty Three. Misc Information Concerning." The short message revealed that the FBI had received information that there might be an attempt to assassinate President Kennedy during his trip to Dallas on November 22 or November 23, 1963. The SACs were instructed to immediately contact all CIs (Criminal Informants), all PCIs (Potential Criminal Informants), and all "logical racial and hate group informants" in order to investigate the threat.

Walter called SAC Maynard, who was charged with the responsibility of running the New Orleans office. Maynard ordered Walter to immediately call the various Special Agents who ran CIs and PCIs. Walter woke up five Special Agents to read the teletype message to them. He then wrote their names upon the face of the teletype. Soon Maynard arrived at the office to take charge. At eight o'clock in the morning Walter left the office.

The response to the teletype demonstrated that the New Orleans office considered the message to be of unusual significance.

Five days later, early in the afternoon, Walter was in a barbershop having his hair cut. A radio broadcast was interrupted with news that the President had just been shot in Dallas. Walter raced back to the FBI office to re-read the teletype. He showed it to various Special Agents and asked, "How could this have happened? We had five days notice!"

Later that day Walter typed a copy of the teletype, and wrote across the face of the copy the names of the five Special Agents he had called on November 17.

Soon after the assassination, an FBI directive ordered the New Orleans office of the Bureau to direct the various agents who had conducted interviews regarding the assassination to examine those reports. The object was to make sure that there were no conflicts with Hoover's public position that Oswald was the lone assassin. All information that might "embarrass the Bureau" was to be deleted from new reports then being prepared for the Warren Commission; the original documents were to be destroyed.

Walter later decided to look at the original teletype again. Alone in the office, he checked the appropriate file drawer and discovered that the teletype had disappeared. The only written proof of its existence was the copy that Walter had made and taken home.

When Senator Richard Schweiker, then a member of the Church Committee, began an inquiry into the assassination of President Kennedy in 1975, Walter flew to Washington, D.C. to provide him with the information in his possession. Schweiker's committee subsequently urged that the Senate appoint a committee to conduct a full-scale investigation of the murder.

Walter lives in Louisiana, where he is currently the vice president of a bank. He is prepared to testify before the House Select Committee on Assassinations regarding the authenticity of the teletype message.

That copy, never before made public, is published here for the first time since it was prepared by Walter on November 22, 1963. ●

over China and that part of Asia. Oswald's anti-aircraft unit, highly classified with regard to security, had the specific assignment of guarding a U-2 hangar and was surrounded by a high, heavily wired Page fence. Even the arrival of the daily mail truck required that it be preceded by a sergeant on foot, equipped with the password for the day.¹⁷ His service at Atsugi Air Base is probably best memorialized by two of the many Central Intelligence Agency documents concerning him which were classified as unavailable following the Warren Commission inquiry: CD 931 "Oswald's access to information about the U-2" and CD 692 "Reproduction of C.I.A. official dossier on Oswald."¹⁸

Another indication of the peculiar security status which Oswald had acquired in the Marines has been well concealed from casual view. The island of Quemoy, just off the mainland of communist China, was occupied by the nationalist Chinese - allies of the United States - but was within shelling distance of the red Chinese. Periodically, a crisis surfaced when Quemoy was shelled and threatened by possible invasion from the mainland. During one of these occasions Oswald was assigned to duty on Quemoy - but the assignment apparently was of a high security classification because it was not indicated anywhere in his service record made available to the Warren Commission.

This special mission was discovered later by a non-government investigator who undertook the laborious task of going through Oswald's payroll records and discovered the fact of his unlisted presence in Quemoy. Oswald was a trained specialist in radar and anti-aircraft operations and it would appear that this special assignment was in that connection. It is not known with any certitude, however, because the purpose of his special assignment has been kept secret.¹⁹

It was not long after taking the Russian examination at El Toro that Lee Oswald received his discharge from the Marines. Within two weeks he surfaced in Moscow where he ostentatiously announced that he had "defected" from the United States and remained for 30 months before returning. What is important to keep in mind is that it was only at this time in Moscow that the scenario of Oswald as a "Communist" - later to be so advantageous in making him the scapegoat for the assassination - began. However, the overwhelming weight of the evidence makes it clear that back in his Marine days - even while he was being taught Russian - he had not the slightest inclination towards Communism.

It is hard to avoid becoming curious about Kerry Thornley whose extravagant testimony differed so enormously from all the other Marines who served with Oswald. It mattered not how

numerous and unanimous the others were about the total absence of Marxist leanings on Oswald's part -- it was Thornley's testimony which was grabbed and held high, for all to see, by the Warren Commission and the government, the incurious national press and the writers of obsequious books approving the official travesty.

Strangely enough, Nelson Delgado -- who had lived in the same barracks as Oswald and had known him much longer (and had "never heard Oswald say subversive things") -- was not even given the usual 72 hours' notice before being called to testify.²⁰ On the other hand, Thornley was given six months in advance, remaining in the Washington, D.C. area, while he prepared to testify for the government.

He arrived in Washington promptly after the assassination of the President and stayed there until his lengthy testimony for the Warren Commission in May of the following year. Whatever lay behind it, Thornley's testimony stands out as most singular -- almost as discordant as the government's triumphant and publicized seizure of it (in the face of the heavy weight of evidence to the contrary) as evidence that Lee Oswald was a dedicated Marxist revolutionary.

It should be noted that when Oswald left El Toro, where he had been given examinations in Russian, he was given an honorable discharge.* His departure for Europe followed promptly (his Lykes Steamship ticket was obtained at the Lykes office of New Orleans' International Trade Mart, managed by Clay Shaw). Although he sailed to England, it is known that he departed eastward by air. However, a mystery still exists as to what kind of air service was made available to him. His departure from the London airport was stamped with the date of 10 October 1959. He arrived in Finland that evening, and checked into his hotel some hours before the arrival of the first commercial air liner on that day.²¹ Under the circumstances, it is highly unlikely that his flight to Finland was made aboard any commercial airliner.

Lee Oswald's departure for Russia was made with State Department approval, according to Health, Education and Welfare Department records in Dallas, to work as a radar specialist.²² A former C.I.A. finance officer, in a statement made in 1978, has been even more specific. Oswald, he stated under oath, had been recruited from the military by the C.I.A. "with the express

*The dishonorable discharge did not occur until he had arrived in Russia and announced that he had "defected". In retrospect, that action appears to have been the creation of a standard intelligence "funny", intended to add verisimilitude to a mission. However, Lee Oswald, upon his return to the United States, filed a strong formal complaint about the change made in his discharge from the Marines.

purpose of a double agent assignment in the U.S.S.R."*

The Agency, has been exceedingly modest about Oswald's possible intelligence assignment in the Soviet Union, its position being -- quite understandably -- that he was not employed by the Agency. However, even if he had not been the patsy for Kennedy's elimination, that would be its standard position with regard to any employee executing such an intelligence assignment.

The former air defense technician in the Marines might well have had an assignment connected with the visibility of U-2 overflights (and the consequent contrails left by the hot engines in the cold upper atmosphere). In that connection, an examination of external occurrences, related in time with Oswald's departure from Russia, reveals that the arrangements for his return to the United States were made at approximately the

*From the former C.I.A. employee's testimony before the House Committee on Assassinations. This employee, a paymaster, testified that he had handled the funding for the project to which Oswald had been assigned. Disposing of this problem, however, was duck soup for the Agency. A chorus line of other Agency witnesses, whose names he had mentioned, was produced and they smoothly denied all knowledge of such a thing. The members of the Committee lost interest in the lead and turned their minds to livelier leads such as Castro's revenge.²³ The observation must be made that nothing seemed to interest the Committee's higher investigative staff less than the production of information connecting the C.I.A. with Lee Oswald.

same time that the United States launched the Midas, the satellite observer missile, to overfly Russia on a regular basis.²⁴ With the satellite observer taking over and replacing the U-2 overflights, there would no longer have been any need for a ground observer to see whether or not visible contrails were left by hot airplane engines.*

The Agency's name rarely appears on the record for anything it initiates which is in the slightest respect sensitive. For example, if it wants a man transferred from one place to another, it arranges behind the scenes for Bureau X to request Bureau Y to make the transfer. After the mission is accomplished, even though the Agency was its "sponsor"*, there remains nothing on the record to show that any interest on its part ever existed.

This point is made because, in connection with Lee Oswald's trip to Russia and back, there is a pattern of government help for him rather than opposition to him. This is all the more unprecedented when such special solicitude is observed occurring after his incendiary announcement in Russia - at a press

*This is not intended as a probability estimate of Oswald's precise function while in the Soviet Union because insufficient data has been made available for such an estimate. It is, however, intended as an example of the fact that he was not without potential utility to the United States Intelligence Community.

**Customary Intelligence Community terminology for the primary instigator or supporter of a mission.

conference which he called at his Moscow hotel - that he was "defecting" from the United States, that he believed in Marxism and that he not only was going to remain in Russia but that, because of his experience in radar, he was in possession of military secrets which he was going to turn over to the Soviet government.

As this dramatic defection hit the world media, the F.B.I. duly picked it up. The Bureau, after making a study of Oswald's Marine Corps files, stated that "no derogatory information was contained in the U.S.M.C. files concerning Oswald."²⁵ The Bureau further was informed that the Office of Naval Intelligence contemplated no action against him in the matter.²⁶ Concerning the F.B.I.'s failure to investigate the Oswald "defection" any farther, J. Edgar Hoover later stated that the American Embassy in Moscow had given Oswald a "clean bill."²⁷

A close study of the record reveals that - after his 30 month sojourn in Russia was over - Oswald once again received the same peculiarly preferential treatment from the United States government with regard to his return to the United States. The special treatment did not extrude. Its profile was sufficiently low so as not to catch the eyes of the media. But it was there.

It is noteworthy, for example, that when Lee Oswald prepared to return from Russia the State Department approved his return (it could have opposed his return as a defector).^{*} It authorized the American Embassy in Moscow to lend him the money (in behalf of State) for his return.²⁹ It is also noteworthy that a State Department regulation provides that such a repatriation loan cannot be made unless "loyalty to the United States beyond question" has been established with regard to the recipient.³⁰ The State Department's Passport Office found "no reason" why his passport should not be renewed** and the Department authorized the American Embassy to renew it.³¹ (In fact subsequently, in 1963, when he applied for his passport again, he received it within 24 hours³² - a circumstance which would have been utterly impossible had his "defection" to Russia been genuine).

This governmental pattern demonstrating almost paternal solicitude for Lee Oswald's welfare - following his fiery "defection" in Moscow, and, 30 months later, following his return

*The Department's report stated that it had determined that Oswald "had not expatriated himself" by his actions upon arriving in Russia in 1961. It added that there was no indication in the reports on Oswald sent to the Department by the F.B.I. that Oswald was a communist.²⁸

**Ordinarily, when an American citizen goes abroad and commits an act indicating allegiance to another country (such as the Soviet Union) the Passport Office automatically prepares a "lookout" card to catch its attention in the event the party ever attempts to review his passport. In Oswald's case, no such "lookout" card ever was prepared. Like the American Embassy, the Passport Office gave Oswald a "clean bill of health."

to the United States - is quite perceptible, upon close analysis, to one even unconnected with the government. The governmental sponsors of the assassination, consequently, must have been acutely conscious of it.

This would seem to explain their felt need, which otherwise would have been redundant and unnecessary, to backdate his apparent Marxism all the way to El Toro Marine Base in 1959 - a remarkable feat which was accomplished by producing a witness to testify before the members of the Warren Commission concerning his radical tendencies even back then. This crucial stain (which had the effect of inferring that the Russian adventure was but a continuation of a deep seated radical dementia, rather than a possible government mission assigned to him) was held up high for the media to see by its presentation before the Commission itself. This darkly incriminating testimony was printed in Volume XI of the hearings.

On the other hand, the other Marines, who had served more closely with Oswald and had known him longer in the Marines, unanimously testified that they never had observed any radical tendencies whatsoever (Oswald "never said subversive things"... "He would discuss his ideas but not anything against

our Government or -- nothing Socialist, mind you"... "I never heard him in any way, shape or form confess that he was a Communist, or that he ever thought about being a Communist"... "I never heard Oswald make any anti-American or pro-Communist statements"... "Oswald never gave me any indication of favoring Communism or opposing capitalism"... "I do not recall any remarks on his part concerning Communism, Russia or Cuba"... are some of the examples cited earlier herein of the consensus of his former Marine associates). This material, consisting of depositions and affidavits - in contrast to the inciting and incriminating testimony presented openly before the members of the Commission - was bunched in a separate volume of the Warren Report from Thornley's testimony and it appears unlikely that most, if any, of the Commission members ever saw it.

Oswald was met on his arrival in New York not by the F.B.I. nor any other law enforcement agencies but by Spas T. Raikin, who was the secretary-general of the American Friends of the Anti-Bolshevik Nations, Inc., an anti-Communist operation with extensive intelligence connections. No effort ever was made by the government to prosecute Oswald for his alleged defection. To the contrary, as will be seen in the following chapter, when he ultimately moved from Fort Worth to Dallas he was received with open arms by the ferociously anti-communist White Russian

community in Dallas and by the United States government, as well. Pending more detailed consideration in the following chapter, a single incident will suffice here as an illustration.

Learning the real status of a defector - who later became a re-defector - can be relatively simple. Simply find out what their standing is with the local F.B.I. office. The Bureau, whose agents are trained to sniff out a Communist a thousand yards away, does not equivocate on that subject.

Of the number of Dallas anti-communist Russians welcoming the Oswalds, only Anna and Teofil Meller had any serious reservations about the couple. This was because Anna, while visiting the Oswald's apartment, had seen a copy of Karl Marx' "Das Kapital" on a table. She seems to have been unaware of it but Teofil, her husband, later called the Bureau and reported the fact. He was informed by the Bureau's spokesman that Oswald was alright.

This information was obtained from a Dallas police investigative report dated February 17, 1964, captioned "Teofil Meller."* How one might ask, was the fact that on this occasion the Bureau regarded Oswald as "alright" handled by the Warren Commission - considering that the latter by that date had begun

*It was obtained by researcher Harold Weisberg, one of the most indefatigable critics of the "official solution". See his book, Whitewash II (New York, Dell, 1966), pp. 45-50.

its project of converting Oswald into a reptile more deadly than the King Cobra?

The Warren Commission handled this problem with its usual elan. It simply did not call Teofil Meller as a witness - nor even ask him for an affidavit.

In view of such an accumulation of considerable anomalies, one is tempted to want to examine Oswald's income tax for the period in question in order to see if income was reported by him from the C.I.A., Naval Intelligence or a related government bureau. Unfortunately for that thought, Oswald's income tax for the relevant time period has been classified as secret.³³ Lee Oswald is probably the only lonely, itinerant drifter in the history of the human race to have his income tax return classified as secret for reasons of national security.

The next chapter will demonstrate in particular - and following chapters will reinforce - that Oswald's treatment, following his return, both by the Intelligence Community and by dedicated anti-Communist individuals unquestionably supports the conclusion that in Russia he had been engaged in a government intelligence clandestine mission (as his mother attempted to

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inform federal officials in vain as far back as 1961³⁴). The facts support the conclusion that Oswald actually was anything but a real defector. It follows that a number of men high in the American Intelligence Community, despite their silence since, necessarily would have been well aware of this.

In any case, those same individuals therefore would know, as well, of the uniqueness of a young American who had branded himself a dissident Marxist in the eyes of the world and who ultimately would be returning to the United States, where he necessarily would continue to be responsive to their orders.

Oswald would return to Texas in 1962, leaving in the summer of 1963 to spend the summer in New Orleans. There he would be "sheep dipped"* - under the cold eyes of Guy Banister, the former

*"Sheep dipped" is intelligence terminology for placing an individual in a form of activity which will condition him in a particular way in the public eye. In 1962, following his return to Russia, Oswald had been surrounded by markedly anti-Communist Russian exiles in Dallas so that, with the assassination coming up later in 1963, it was necessary to cause him to go through some "refresher" motions (e.g. handing out pro-Castro leaflets on the street in front of news photographers, who had been called beforehand) so that the public could be reminded, at the proper time, that he was a trouble maker who had once "defected" to Russia. It would not have been difficult for the older men around him in New Orleans to induce him to such action by convincing him that he was helping to "penetrate" the pro-Castro group (which actually had no members in New Orleans) known as "Fair Play for Cuba," headquarters which was in New York.

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Special Agent in Charge of the Chicago F.B.I. office and a member of Naval Intelligence in World War II - by being instructed to hand out pro-Castro leaflets in the streets of New Orleans and engage in other dissident antics.³⁵

The Lure of Louisiana

Kerry Thornley - the young man who would one day be the government's star witness against his former Marine friend - was a native of California, having gone to high school in Whittier and then to the University of Southern California. In January, 1961 - the month of President Kennedy's inauguration - he moved to New Orleans, Lee Oswald's hometown (prior to his moving to Fort Worth when in high school) where he was to remain for several years and the very place where Oswald would be returning to hand out inflammatory pro-Castro pamphlets in the summer before the assassination.³⁶

Oswald, meanwhile, was in the midst of his 30 month stay in Russia, an ostensible defector working in a radio factory in Minsk.* He would not be back in New Orleans until he arrived to

*Minsk was one of six cities to which the Russians automatically sent defectors arriving from other countries. Whatever Oswald's assigned mission was, consequently, it was predictable in advance that the Soviets would assign him to one of these six cities.

spend the summer there in 1963.

Thornley, when questioned by the New Orleans District Attorney's Office, denied having encountered Oswald in New Orleans during the latter's 1963 sojourn back in the city, although witness Barbara Reid strenuously disagreed with this. She described in great detail seeing them together on several occasions at the Bourbon House, a combination bar and restaurant in the French Quarter.³⁷

For Thornley the lure of Louisiana suddenly ended several days after Kennedy's assassination. At that time he permanently left New Orleans. He abruptly departed (as he explained in a hasty note left for his landlord) "for the Washington, D.C. area."³⁸

Where, Thornley was asked, had he stayed while living in New Orleans? As chance would have it, he had resided for a time on Lafayette Square - the highly active center, although low in its profile, for the Intelligence Community's operations in New Orleans in the early 1960's.* This was learned when he was asked why he had had a box key for the Lafayette Square post office (it was not known that he had one, but it earlier had become apparent

*See Chapter 7, ~~THE LAFAYETTE COMPLEX~~.

~~BARONET OPERATIONS~~



1984

Jim Garrison

that all the intelligence employees at Guy Banister's clandestine operation - later including Lee Oswald in the summer of 1963 - carried such a key, apparently either for receiving instructions in their mail box from their particular intelligence case agents or for an explanation of their periodic presence in the building in which the Office of Naval Intelligence was located). Thornley's answer was that he had possessed such a key because he had lived at the Fox Hotel right across the street from the post office building.³⁹

Right across the street? Mirabile dictu! And right across the street from Guy Banister (the former career intelligence official and now the man running the anti-Castro effort for the Cuban emigres in New Orleans).^{*} And right across the street from the hang-out of David Ferrie (the peripatetic C.I.A. contract employee and Oswald's former captain in the Civil Air Patrol).⁴¹ And right across the street from 544 Camp Street, from which in the summer of 1963, Lee Harvey Oswald, would be handing out his provocative "pro-Castro" leaflets.⁴²

And right across the street from Naval Intelligence headquarters.⁴³ And two blocks down the street from the Central Intelligence Agency and the F.B.I. offices.⁴⁴

^{*}See Chapter 7, THE LAFAYETTE-COMPLEX.⁴⁰

Banister Apparatus

Here the point should be made that in dealing with an Intelligence Community product (such as, to a degree, is represented by the twenty-six volumes of "hearings and evidence" of the Warren Commission) it is not merely enough -- no matter how scholarly the effort -- to confine one's study to that highly selective product. There must also be some primary investigation to develop reference points connecting with exterior reality. For example, not a trace of the content of the material being presented in this chapter would be found anywhere in the twenty-six volumes of the government's investigation - aside from the briefly cited effort of government attorneys to portray the officially selected scapegoat as a "Marxist."

Of course, Kerry Thornley's presence in the middle of the crowded Lafayette Square intelligence scene might have been the purest happenstance. It is nevertheless notable that federal investigators seem to have shown no interest in nor any awareness of the coincidences involved in his presence in New Orleans, his contacts there and the timing of his arrivals and departures from the city.

Another small eyebrow raiser, as well, is the fact that, while living in New Orleans, Kerry Thornley had been writing a novel "inspired by" Lee Oswald (he finished the book in February 1963 -- just eight months before the assassination).⁴⁵ Not

many other people were writing books inspired by Lee Oswald. At least, not before the murder of President Kennedy.

The D.A.'s office already had learned that Thornley arrived in New Orleans in early 1961. A routine check of police records shows that he was in New Orleans in 1962, as well. He was arrested in August of that year for putting a sign on a telephone post on Royal Street, in the French Quarter, in violation of a city ordinance.⁴⁶ The arresting police officers, when questioned, could no longer recall the subject of the sign.

Thornley's arrival in New Orleans in January of 1961 could turn out to be the explanation of the previously unexplainable "Bolton Ford incident."⁴⁷ While Oswald was still in Russia, a young man (initiating a bid for ten Ford pick-up trucks for the C.I.A.-sponsored Bay of Pigs invasion) gave his name to the Bolton Ford company as "Lee Oswald".*

The bid was being made by this "Oswald" in behalf of Guy Banister's "Citizens for a Democratic Cuba." The proposed

*Oswald's name, quite apparently, was on the bid form which the F.B.I. agents -- following the assassination -- so carefully removed with tweezers from the Bolton Ford files. Although Thornley must have arrived in Washington almost as soon as the bid form, there is no indication in the twenty-six Warren Commission volumes that anyone ever asked him about that -- or about the number of other instances of the use of Oswald's name by a young man.

transaction was occurring at a time when this organization was engaged in gathering material for the C.I.A.'s attempted invasion at the Bay of Pigs in Cuba. This indirect procedure was being used to acquire military equipment for the invasion in order to support the posture - later adopted by the United States government - that the invasion had been developed and launched solely by anti-Castro Cubans. At the time of the bid, the young man using Oswald's name told the Ford people, "You ought to sell us these trucks at cost. This is for a patriotic thing."⁴⁸

The young man using Oswald's name was accompanied by a husky character who appeared to be Latin and who had a distinctive one inch vertical scar through his left eyebrow. The powerful looking Latin would later be seen regularly at another operation out of Banister's place. After the real Lee Oswald's return to New Orleans in the summer of 1963, when he began flamboyantly handing out the pro-Castro leaflets, the man with the scar would always be present on the edge of the crowd - out of range of the cameras - as his bodyguard.*

*This is standard operating procedure for intelligence when an employee or agent is engaged in a provocative activity. The nearby bodyguard is insurance against a violent reaction from some individual in the crowd. Additional insurance is also acquired by selecting a controlled environment for the provocative scene. For example, the most widely photographed locale when Oswald played the "agent provocateur" was at the entrance of the International Trade Mart, which was operated by Clay Shaw, a man who long since has been confirmed to have been a C.I.A. employee. For more information regarding Shaw see Chapter 6, THE MYSTERIOUS WORLD OF CLAY SHAW, and Chapter 8, THE COMPANY OF FRIENDS.

Most people in New Orleans did not know the name "Oswald" but in 1961 Thornley would not have been unaware of his former comrade at arms. Within the next year or so he would be writing the book about him - well before he was made famous as the solitary killer of the President. However, Thornley was unable to recall using Oswald's name nor being at Bolton Ford.

In fact, Thornley did not recall many things about his stay in New Orleans from early 1961 until late November of 1963. He did recall staying for a brief period at an obscure lodging house called the McBeath Hotel on Napoleon Avenue. That place was no longer operational when the D.A.'s investigators arrived there, following Thornley's reference to it, but some of its old records remained. Among them, interestingly enough, was the registration of Lee H. Oswald in 1959, just before he sailed on the Lykes steamship (with a ticket purchased at Clay Shaw's International Trade Mart) for Europe.

Because of the implications of the Bolton Ford bid made under the name of Lee Oswald, the D.A.'s office located a copy of Thornley's driving license in California and compared his statistics with Oswald's. Between the two of them there was one inch difference in height and a few pounds difference in

weight.* Obviously they were fairly close in appearance -- two very thin young men with almost exactly the same physical build, each with brown hair and similar facial features.

One very strange thing happened, however, when Kerry Thornley described his Marine comrade in 1964 during the course of his 33-page discourse on him. Warren Commission Counsel Jenner asked how tall Lee Oswald was and here is the colloquy which resulted:

Mr. Thornley: I would say he was about five-five maybe. I don't know.

Mr. Jenner: How tall are you?

Mr. Thornley: I am five ten.

Mr. Jenner: Was he shorter than you?

Mr. Thornley: Yes.⁴⁹

But wait a minute! Oswald -- who was nearly six feet tall -- was the taller of the two. It would not be possible for Thornley to reverse such a fact in his mind. Why, then, was he describing his friend Lee as six inches shorter than he really was? Was he,

*California driver's license #G86606, issued in 1968, indicated Thornley to be 5 feet 10 inches tall and 145 pounds in weight. Oswald was 5 feet 11 inches tall and approximately 150 pounds in weight. The sources of Oswald's measurements used by the D.A.'s office for the comparison were: his Selective Service Registration, his medical examination while still in the Marines and his passport.

perhaps, fearful that someone might believe that he, Thornley, had been the young man who had been acting out the role of Lee Oswald in the early 1960's . . . at Bolton Ford in New Orleans . . . then in Dallas. . . and then in Mexico in September . . . and then back in New Orleans. . . and then in Dallas again?

If it was anything much less than that, less horrendous and inadmissible, why wasn't the Warren Commission counsel saying anything to "refresh his recollection"? Everyone connected with the inquiry had to know by then that Oswald was 5 feet 11 inches tall.

Obviously, not enough people really cared -- rote was being chanted out to create the tableau of an extensive inquiry. Thornley easily could have said that Oswald was only three feet tall. Allen Dulles would have puffed on his pipe and grinned. The truth was that everything was really all over when the scapegoat was shot and put away in a box.*

But for anyone who might still be interested in the facts, a careful reading of Thornley's testimony produces the acrid smell

*The Dallas police, anxious to make at least a belated show of efficiency, seem to have been prompt in their recognition that the case was already over. After Oswald was shot they marked their one-page investigation of the President's murder with a rubber stamp: "Case closed."

of fraud on the part of men connected with the government -- a fraud never disowned, still bearing the imprimatur of the government after twenty years. Have you ever observed how intensely the Justice Department prosecutes fraud in the private sector? Here we have one of history's most gigantic frauds - one part of a giant constellation of fraud - on the part of the government itself. The loud silence from the Justice Department, since the Warren Commission edifice toppled and fell, remains deafening.

Did this star witness as to Lee Oswald's Communism in the Marines in California by any chance, happen to have met Guy Banister in New Orleans before the assassination? Yes, he replied to the New Orleans D.A.'s office. He had met Banister by accident. They had "discussed the book" inspired by Oswald, which Thornley was writing.

A curious group, the D.A.'s office asked another question. Had the government's star witness also met David Ferrie in New Orleans prior to the assassination? Well, yes again. He had met Ferrie also by accident. However, Thornley added, in a burst of cooperation, "I'm nearly sure that no significant conversation transpired."

Also, during Thornley's conversation with the New Orleans authorities, he was questioned about his travel schedule in 1963 when he went (by bus) to visit his parents in California. He explained that he had left New Orleans at the end of April and gone by way of Dallas, where he spent a few days visiting (the first few days of May). By strange coincidence, this was the very period during which photographs were taken - with Oswald's head rather clumsily superimposed on them - of a young man holding in one hand a Communist newspaper and in the other a rifle (needless to say, it is rather rare in the annals of assassination for the culprit to so obligingly provide incriminating evidence against himself in advance).

The photographs were taken in the backyard of the Neely Street apartment which the Oswalds had occupied in Dallas. They had moved out of it to New Orleans in early May, leaving a week's rent still paid for.

Either the Communist newspaper or the rifle would have been strong enough for a man soon to become a scapegoat - but the combination of the two leaves a fragrance which is too strong to be taken seriously. These "incriminating" photographs of the designated assassin would be found by Dallas police on the

afternoon of the assassination.⁵⁰

Thornley had returned in September by way of Mexico City ("for many years I had wanted to visit Mexico City.")⁵¹ Interestingly enough, this happened to be very close to the time that the Warren Commission said Oswald was in Mexico, allegedly contacting the Russian embassy and trying to get a visa from the Cuban embassy (so that he could go to Russia by way of Cuba, if you are ready for that one). Actually, Lee Oswald, himself, never contacted the Soviet Embassy nor the Cuban Embassy in Mexico City. As explained in more detail, later in THE MAN WHO WASN'T THERE, someone else was using his name, one more acting out of the role of the offensive Marxist dissident, one more contribution to the pre-assassination dis-creditation of the scapegoat.*

Towards the end of his stay in New Orleans, by November 1963,

*For example, Lee Oswald's communications with the Russian embassy were described in a C.I.A. memo dated prior to the assassination.⁵² His "conversations" (consisting of the query, "this is Lee Oswald. Are there any messages for me?") invariably were followed by a negative response from the Embassy's switchboard operator, and were recorded by the C.I.A. After the President's murder, F.B.I. agents listening to the tape concluded, in a moment of uninformed candor, that the voice was not Oswald's.⁵³ This untrue pre-assassination Agency memo and the contrived "conversation" fairly should be recognized as early evidence demonstrating Agency participation in setting up the man who was to become the official patsy for the President's removal. See Chapter 9, THE MAN WHO WASN'T THERE for considerably more detail in this regard.

Thornley was living at John Spencer's house -- about three or four blocks away from Clay Shaw. Spencer happened to be a friend of Shaw's and sometimes he visited Shaw and sometimes it was vice versa. However, both Clay Shaw and Spencer were in agreement that Shaw never came by while Thornley was staying at John Spencer's.

After spending nearly three years in New Orleans, Kerry Thornley suddenly left - for good. Several days after the assassination, Spencer came to his house and found Thornley gone. There was a note from him in Spencer's mailbox saying, "I must leave. I am going to the Washington, D.C. area, probably Alexandria, Virginia. I will send you my address so that you can forward my mail."* Spencer said it was quite unexpected because Thornley had at least ten days left in the month before his rent would have been due. He went to Thornley's apartment, which was apartment "C", and paper all over the place had been torn up into small pieces resembling confetti. Before being torn up the paper

*This is an example of real coincidence. At the end of summer, Ruth Paine - who subsequently got Lee Oswald his job at the now famous Texas School Book Depository - had driven to Washington, D.C. to visit her brother-in-law (employed by the Agency for International Development, for all practical purposes an Agency subsidiary), then returned to New Orleans in September. Payne picked up Marina Oswald, the baby and the Oswald family belongings -- and drove them on to Dallas, where Lee Oswald was to join them. Now back in New Orleans, hardly had the gunshots in Dallas died out when Oswald's old Marine buddy also was seized with the urge to go to Washington.⁵⁴ But, in all fairness, it should be observed that the Washington area is very picturesque and the sudden desire to visit it can be impelling.

had been watered down so that the ink had been blurred, making it unreadable.

Spencer said he had had some conversations with Thornley about his book "The Idle Warriors" and that Thornley had asked him to read a copy of the manuscript which had been turned down by several publishers before the assassination. He never did get around to reading it. After the assassination Thornley told him that he was going to be a rich man because of the coincidence of Oswald having been the subject of his book.⁵⁵

The New Orleans D.A.'s office traced Thornley's path to the Washington area. It was found that indeed he had wound up at Arlington, a Washington suburb. He had moved into Shirlington House, a first-class apartment building, where he worked as doorman. Thornley stayed at Shirlington House until he testified before the Warren Commission. (That was a six-month stay in Washington. There are plays produced on Broadway with shorter rehearsal periods than that.) The D.A.'s office ascertained that, oddly enough, his salary was less than the rent of his Shirlington House apartment.⁵⁶

Thornley sometime later sent a lengthy, almost biographical, affidavit to the New Orleans D.A.'s office describing, among other things, evidence which he had encountered of Nazi activity

there in connection with President Kennedy's murder. Although it did not quite accord with reality in many respects, as the D.A.'s office saw it, it had one interesting feature. Purely gratuitously, it mentioned in brief detail how he and John Rosselli had happened to become friends after Thornley had left Washington and returned to California. The affidavit was mailed before Roselli's abrupt dispatchment to the hereafter, his early departure having been accomplished by dropping him in an oil drum into the ocean off the coast of Florida.

You may remember Rosselli, a racketeer of some renown. His name had surfaced during the Senate's investigation of the C.I.A.'s assassination practices. He was described as one of several men with underworld backgrounds who had worked for the Central Intelligence Agency in its efforts to accomplish the assassination of Fidel Castro.* In fact, he had been one of a number of mobster types with whom the Agency had developed a relationship during its pre-Castro activities in Cuba.** They

*See Chapter 12, THE HIDDEN SPONSOR, with regard to some of the Agency's specific assassination projects.

**Rosselli's gambling proclivities in pre-Castro Cuba -- the site of numerous casinos - later had made him useful to Howard Hughes, the eccentric billionaire, when he cast his covetous eyes on the twinkling world of the Las Vegas casinos. With Rosselli and his connections to ease the way, Hughes had moved into Vegas as only Howard Hughes could, buying up whatever caught his eye. It was while he was working for Hughes, and because of his background and gambling contacts in Cuba, that Rosselli was drafted by the C.I.A.

would later prove to be valuable assets after Kennedy's elimination, because the Agency's dis-Information machinery was able to use their names to divert attention to the mob as a possible "sponsor" of the murder.*

Rosselli's assignment by the Agency was to accomplish the assassination of Fidel Castro. In retrospect he seems not to have been as close-mouthed about his mission as the Agency would have liked. Rosselli initiated -- between 1960 and 1963 -- at least five attempts on Castro's life. When he later appeared before a Senate Committee investigating the assassination proclivities of the C.I.A., he testified that he was aware all along that his murder project was sponsored by the Agency.

Not long afterwards the remains of Mr. Rosselli -- shot in the stomach and bound in chains -- were found floating in an oil

*See Chapter 13, THE SECRET SPONSOR, regarding the C.I.A.'s use of "false sponsors" following assassinations. A particularly blatant example of the fascination of federal investigations for false leads pointing away from the C.I.A. is epitomized in the 1978-1979 House Committee on assassination investigation. It featured an 1100 page volume of its hearings into Organized Crime - a very safe and popular target for the Congressmen to consider. The volume has about as much relevance to Kennedy's assassination as if it were a study of the religious rites of the Druids in early England. This was a clear case of the Congressmen being taken for a ride by someone at the top level of their investigative staff. See APPENDIX: The House Committee on Assassinations.

drum in Biscayne Bay. In accordance with official American etiquette for that period (when a murder victim happened to have been a potential witness to an assassination project) federal investigators were unable to find any leads to the perpetrators. This did not prevent the Justice Department from indicating that it thought the job was the work of organized crime. The C.I.A. said that it thought so, too.

It does not seem to have occurred to federal investigative authorities that the mob, which admittedly is not something our country can be very proud of, would not likely have been the unhappy party as the result of Rosselli admitting to the Senate that he had initiated assassination attempts for the C.I.A. Nor did anyone point out that at this time - when the Agency's dis-Information machinery was stentoriously featuring Organized Crime as a very probable sponsor of the assassination - it is not a very reasonable hypothesis that the mob would make such an overt effort to put its "signature" on the murder of a witness so directly connected to the assassination inquiry.*

*A second mob figure, Sam Giancana (who also had done some business with the C.I.A. regarding Cuba) - was called to appear before the same committee - was killed shortly before his scheduled appearance. He was murdered with equal savagery, under circumstances also dramatically suggestive of a traditional organized crime execution. He was shot in his home eight times in his neck and his head by someone whom he admitted into the house. Those who conclude that Organized Crime would be so likely to also put its imprimatur on this scheduled Committee

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witness are free to do so. Some of the more curious might wish to read, in Chapter 12, THE SECRET SPONSOR, of the variety of brutal murder techniques developed by the C.I.A.

Whether this indeed was an old fashioned sentimental gesture on the part of the "mob" or a clever example of what the Agency terms "damage control," someone seems to have gone to some trouble to produce a scenario reminiscent of the gangster days of yesteryear and Prohibition. In any case, in the course of becoming an acquaintance of John Rosselli in the middle Sixties, Kerry Thornley was not exactly becoming a friend of Joe Smith, Citizen. He had come a long way from his Marine days back at El Toro with his buddy, Lee Oswald.

A few months after his arrival in the Washington area, Thornley had occasion to write an acquaintance. In passing, he made a brief reference to the President's assassination:

"The whole thing was very interesting for awhile, the assassination, because -- on the surface -- there was good reason for the unenlightened SS [sic] and F.B.I. to suspect I might've had a hand in it. We had some polite conversations and finally, I guess, I was cleared. No word from them lately. I hope, though, my move to this area scared the piss out of 'em. Whether or not I'll be asked to put my 2¢ in at the Warren hearing, I don't know. Or care. When it is all over, though, I may yet go piss on JFK's grave, RIP."*

One has to wonder at the whimsy of fate. With all due sympathy for Rosselli's tragic demise, the question arises: what was a nice kid like Kerry Thornley doing with a character like that?

* From a letter written by Kerry Thornley, Arlington, Virginia, to Philip Boatright, Omaha, Nebraska, February 8, 1964.⁵⁷

test given to your basic soldier). His interrogator seems to have sensed the explosive potential of this information because he quickly added that Oswald had answered about as many questions wrong as he had correctly. With regard to a Russian examination, this is very much like saying that your dog is stupid because you can beat him playing chess three games out of five.

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D

I have already made clear my response to learning that Oswald had been given an examination in Russian. The implications of this unusual circumstance had grown even more provocative in view of Oswald's New Orleans activities. I took a closer look at the possibility.

This slip about the Russian examination is the beginning of the evidence indicating that earlier Oswald had been selected for intelligence work. *That Oswald might have been selected for* This is not surprising inasmuch as he possessed the characteristics looked for in recruiting such employees: he was from a military family (one brother in the Marines, one in the Air Force), he was very closemouthed by nature, he followed orders automatically and he was well above average in intelligence.* The other Marines around Oswald had acquired the impression that he had "taught himself" Russian, unaware that the government had taught him.

The likelihood of Oswald having

His having been picked for intelligence work while in the Marines is consistent with his assignment prior to the taking of the Russian examination at El Toro Marine Base in 1959. Previously, *TO ATSGI* he had served in the Pacific at Atsugi Air Base - the ultra-secret base for all of the daily super-secret U-2 flights

*Oswald's Intelligence Quotient ("I.Q.") was 118. This means that his intelligence had tested out, in approximate terms, as 18 points above the average I.Q.



1984

Jim Garrison

over China and that part of Asia. Oswald's anti-aircraft unit, highly classified with regard to security, had the specific assignment of guarding a U-2 hangar and was surrounded by a high, heavily wired Page fence. Even the arrival of the daily mail truck required that it be preceded by a sergeant on foot, equipped with the password for the day.¹⁷ His service at Atsugi Air Base is probably best memorialized by two of the many Central Intelligence Agency documents concerning him which were classified as unavailable following the Warren Commission inquiry: CD 931 "Oswald's access to information about the U-2" and CD 692 "Reproduction of C.I.A. official dossier on Oswald."¹⁸

Another indication of the peculiar security status which Oswald had acquired in the Marines has been well concealed from casual view. The island of Quemoy, just off the mainland of communist China, was occupied by the nationalist Chinese - allies of the United States - but was within shelling distance of the red Chinese. Periodically, a crisis surfaced when Quemoy was shelled and threatened by possible invasion from the mainland. During one of these occasions Oswald was assigned to duty on Quemoy - but the assignment apparently was of a high security classification because it was not indicated anywhere in his service record made available to the Warren Commission.

This special mission was discovered later by a non-government investigator who undertook the laborious task of going through Oswald's payroll records and discovered the fact of his unlisted presence in Quemoy. Oswald was a trained specialist in radar and anti-aircraft operations and it would appear that this special assignment was in that connection. It is not known with any certitude, however, because the purpose of his special assignment has been kept secret.¹⁹

It was not long after taking the Russian examination at El Toro that Lee Oswald received his discharge from the Marines. Within two weeks he surfaced in Moscow where he ostentatiously announced that he had "defected" from the United States and remained for 30 months before returning. What is important to keep in mind is that it was only at this time in Moscow that the scenario of Oswald as a "Communist" - later to be so advantageous in making him the scapegoat for the assassination - began. However, the overwhelming weight of the evidence makes it clear that back in his Marine days - even while he was being taught Russian - he had not the slightest inclination towards Communism.

It is hard to avoid becoming curious about Kerry Thornley whose extravagant testimony differed so enormously from all the other Marines who served with Oswald. It mattered not how

*Now it
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into K.T.*

numerous and unanimous the others were about the total absence of Marxist leanings on Oswald's part -- it was Thornley's testimony which was grabbed and held high, for all to see, by the Warren Commission and the government, the incurious national press and the writers of obsequious books approving the official travesty.

Strangely enough, Nelson Delgado -- who had lived in the same barracks as Oswald and had known him much longer (and had "never heard Oswald say subversive things") -- was not even given the usual 72 hours' notice before being called to testify.²⁰ On the other hand, Thornley was given six months in advance, remaining in the Washington, D.C. area, while he prepared to testify for the government.

He arrived in Washington promptly after the assassination of the President and stayed there until his lengthy testimony for the Warren Commission in May of the following year. Whatever lay behind it, Thornley's testimony stands out as most singular -- almost as discordant as the government's triumphant and publicized seizure of it (in the face of the heavy weight of evidence to the contrary) as evidence that Lee Oswald was a dedicated Marxist revolutionary.

community in Dallas and by the United States government, as well. Pending more detailed consideration in the following chapter, a single incident will suffice here as an illustration.

Learning the real status of a defector - who later became a re-defector - can be relatively simple. Simply find out what their standing is with the local F.B.I. office. The Bureau, whose agents are trained to sniff out a Communist a thousand yards away, does not equivocate on that subject.

Of the number of Dallas anti-communist Russians welcoming the Oswalds, only Anna and Teofil Meller had any serious reservations about the couple. This was because Anna, while visiting the Oswald's apartment, had seen a copy of Karl Marx' "Das Kapital" on a table. She seems to have been unaware of it but Teofil, her husband, later called the Bureau and reported the fact. He was informed by the Bureau's spokesman that Oswald was alright.

This information was obtained from a Dallas police investigative report dated February 17, 1964, captioned "Teofil Meller."* How one might ask, was the fact that on this occasion the Bureau regarded Oswald as "alright" handled by the Warren Commission - considering that the latter by that date had begun

*It was obtained by researcher Harold Weisberg, one of the most indefatigable critics of the "official solution". See his book, Whitewash II (New York, Dell, 1966), pp. 45-50.

same time that the United States launched the Midas, the satellite observer missile, to overfly Russia on a regular basis. ~~24~~ With the satellite observer taking over and replacing the U-2 overflights, there would no longer have been any need for a ground observer to see whether or not visible contrails were left by hot airplane engines.*

The Agency's name rarely appears on the record for anything it initiates which is in the slightest respect sensitive. For example, if it wants a man transferred from one place to another, it arranges behind the scenes for Bureau X to request Bureau Y to make the transfer. After the mission is accomplished, even though the Agency was its "sponsor"*, there remains nothing on the record to show that any interest on its part ever existed.

This point is made because, in connection with Lee Oswald's trip to Russia and back, there is a pattern of government help for him rather than opposition to him. This is all the more unprecedented when such special solicitude is observed occurring after his incendiary announcement in Russia - at a press

*This is not intended as a probability estimate of Oswald's precise function while in the Soviet Union because insufficient data has been made available for such an estimate. It is, however, intended as an example of the fact that he was not without potential utility to the United States Intelligence Community.

**Customary Intelligence Community terminology for the primary instigator or supporter of a mission.

conference which he called at his Moscow hotel - that he was "defecting" from the United States, that he believed in Marxism and that he not only was going to remain in Russia but that, because of his experience in radar, he was in possession of military secrets which he was going to turn over to the Soviet government.

As this dramatic defection hit the world media, the F.B.I. duly picked it up. The Bureau, after making a study of Oswald's Marine Corps files, stated that "no derogatory information was contained in the U.S.M.C. files concerning Oswald."²⁶ The Bureau further was informed that the Office of Naval Intelligence contemplated no action against him in the matter.²⁶ Concerning the F.B.I.'s failure to investigate the Oswald "defection" any farther, J. Edgar Hoover later stated that the American Embassy in Moscow had given Oswald a "clean bill."²⁷

A close study of the record reveals that - after his 30 month sojourn in Russia was over - Oswald once again received the same peculiarly preferential treatment from the United States government with regard to his return to the United States. The special treatment did not extrude. Its profile was sufficiently low so as not to catch the eyes of the media. But it was there.

to the United States - is quite perceptible, upon close analysis, to one even unconnected with the government. ~~The governmental sponsors of the assassination, consequently, must have been acutely conscious of it.~~

This would seem to explain their felt need, which otherwise would have been redundant and unnecessary, to backdate his apparent Marxism all the way to El Toro Marine Base in 1959 - a remarkable feat which was accomplished by producing a witness to testify before the members of the Warren Commission concerning his radical tendencies even back then. This crucial stain (which had the effect of inferring that the Russian adventure was but a continuation of a deep seated radical dementia, rather than a possible government mission assigned to him) was held up high for the media to see by its presentation before the Commission itself. This darkly incriminating testimony was printed in Volume XI of the hearings.

On the other hand, the other Marines, who had served more closely with Oswald and had known him longer in the Marines, unanimously testified that they never had observed any radical tendencies whatsoever (Oswald "never said subversive things"... "He would discuss his ideas but not anything against

It is noteworthy, for example, that when Lee Oswald prepared to return from Russia the State Department approved his return (it could have opposed his return as a defector).²⁹ It authorized the American Embassy in Moscow to lend him the money (in behalf of State) for his return. It is also noteworthy that a State Department regulation provides that such a repatriation loan cannot be made unless "loyalty to the United States beyond question" has been established with regard to the recipient.³⁰ The State Department's Passport Office found "no reason" why his passport should not be renewed** and the Department authorized the American Embassy to renew it.³¹ (In fact subsequently, in 1963, when he applied for his passport again, he received it within 24 hours³² - a circumstance which would have been utterly impossible had his "defection" to Russia been genuine).

This governmental pattern demonstrating almost paternal solicitude for Lee Oswald's welfare - following his fiery "defection" in Moscow, and, 30 months later, following his return

*The Department's report stated that it had determined that Oswald "had not expatriated himself" by his actions upon arriving in Russia in 1961. It added that there was no indication in the reports on Oswald sent to the Department by the F.B.I. that Oswald was a communist.²⁸

**Ordinarily, when an American citizen goes abroad and commits an act indicating allegiance to another country (such as the Soviet Union) the Passport Office automatically prepares a "lookout" card to catch its attention in the event the party ever attempts to review his passport. In Oswald's case, no such "lookout" card ever was prepared. Like the American Embassy, the Passport Office gave Oswald a "clean bill of health."

our Government or -- nothing Socialist, mind you"... "I never heard him in any way, shape or form confess that he was a Communist, or that he ever thought about being a Communist"... "I never heard Oswald make any anti-American or pro-Communist statements"... "Oswald never gave me any indication of favoring Communism or opposing capitalism"... "I do not recall any remarks on his part concerning Communism, Russia or Cuba"... are some of the examples cited earlier herein of the consensus of his former Marine associates). This material, consisting of depositions and affidavits - in contrast to the inciting and incriminating testimony presented openly before the members of the Commission - was bunched in a separate volume of the Warren Report from Thornley's testimony and it appears unlikely that most, if any, of the Commission members ever saw it.

Oswald was met on his arrival in New York not by the F.B.I. nor any other law enforcement agencies but by Spas T. Raikin, who was the secretary-general of the American Friends of the Anti-Bolshevik Nations, Inc., an anti-Communist operation with extensive intelligence connections. No effort ever was made by the government to prosecute Oswald for his alleged defection. To the contrary, as will be seen in the following chapter, when he ultimately moved from Fort Worth to Dallas he was received with open arms by the ferociously anti-communist White Russian

its project of converting Oswald into a reptile more deadly than the King Cobra?

The Warren Commission handled this problem with its usual elan. It simply did not call Teofil Meller as a witness - nor even ask him for an affidavit.

In view of such an accumulation of considerable anomalies, one is tempted to want to examine Oswald's income tax for the period in question in order to see if income was reported by him from the C.I.A., Naval Intelligence or a related government bureau. Unfortunately for that thought, Oswald's income tax for the relevant time period has been classified as secret.³³ Lee Oswald is probably the only lonely, itinerant drifter in the history of the human race to have his income tax return classified as secret for reasons of national security.

~~The next chapter will demonstrate in particular - and following chapters will reinforce - that Oswald's treatment, following his return, both by the Intelligence Community and by dedicated anti-Communist individuals unquestionably supports the conclusion that in Russia he had been engaged in a government intelligence clandestine mission (as his mother attempted to~~

inform federal officials in vain as far back as 1961³⁴). The facts support the conclusion that Oswald actually was anything but a real defector. It follows that a number of men high in the American Intelligence Community, despite their silence since, necessarily would have been well aware of this.

In any case, those same individuals therefore would know, as well, of the uniqueness of a young American who had branded himself a dissident Marxist in the eyes of the world and who ultimately would be returning to the United States, where he necessarily would continue to be responsive to their orders.

Oswald would return to Texas in 1962, leaving in the summer of 1963 to spend the summer in New Orleans. There he would be "sheep dipped"* - under the cold ^{blue}eyes of Guy Banister, the former

*"Sheep dipped" is intelligence terminology for placing an individual in a form of activity which will condition him in a particular way in the public eye. In 1962, following his return to Russia, Oswald had been surrounded by markedly anti-Communist Russian exiles in Dallas so that, with the assassination coming up later in 1963, it was necessary to cause him to go through some "refresher" motions (e.g. handing out pro-Castro leaflets on the street in front of news photographers, who had been called beforehand) so that the public could be reminded, at the proper time, that he was a trouble maker who had once "defected" to Russia. It would not have been difficult for the older men around him in New Orleans to induce him to such action by convincing him that he was helping to "penetrate" the pro-Castro group (which actually had no members in New Orleans) known as "Fair Play for Cuba," headquarters which was in New York.

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